

Los Angeles Police
Protective League

The Blue Line

Vol. 56, No. 2

Published Monthly

February, 2001

1308 West 8th Street
Los Angeles, Calif. 90017



P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

I Pledge Compressed Work Schedule ...

by Miltzi Grasso

As police officers, we don't often come across win-win situations. Most of the time in our line of work, we have a victim, maybe some witnesses and, if we get lucky, a suspect.

When it comes to working for Compressed Work Schedules (CWS) for Los Angeles Police Officers, however, we at the League believe we have one of those rare win-win situations.

would significantly increase job satisfaction. We know from talking to officers at other departments where CWS is a long-standing practice that it makes a huge difference in the way officers view their job. And we know from talking to potential candidates that CWS would help attract more qualified female candidates who are especially concerned about being able to balance family responsibilities with the duties of a police officer.

When we have the results of this effort, we will report them to our members and the public. Sometime thereafter, LAPPL will decide which, if any, candidate to endorse for Mayor.

League Activities

As a young officer, I sometimes wondered if my LAPPL dues were worth paying. The more I got involved in League activities, the less that seemed a reasonable question. LAPPL can be a passive experience, but the more time and energy you invest in participating, the more you'll get for your dues dollars. The League offers a variety of ways you can join in helping make your job and the LAPD a great experience. Participate. Call the office at (213) 251-4554 and find out how you can become an active participant in America's most dynamic police labor organization.

Getting in Shape

Is getting in shape one of your New Year's resolutions? Or perhaps you already maintain a workout program. For either situation we at the League have provided our members a program through 24 Hour Fitness. For just \$22 per month for a regular membership or \$32 per month for a Sport membership, you can have access to any 24 Hour Fitness. There are no registration fees and no additional costs. Just walk into any 24 Hour Fitness to register. The long range benefits of maintaining a workout program are just too good to pass up!

Pressed for time? Who isn't these days?

Check out what's going on at the LAPPL. Simply go to our website, which can be accessed by logging on to www.lapd.com. Click on "In The News."

“We propose that every candidate for Mayor of Los Angeles state publicly whether he or she will make the commitment to implement compressed work schedules for LAPD officers.”

As you may know, in 1994 the City of Los Angeles did a study of CWS. The findings were amazing.

First, the study found that CWS would save taxpayers nearly \$100 million per year. Even in a city the size of Los Angeles, that's a lot of money for better libraries, improved parks, and better streets - any number of things that would improve the quality of life. Why would the City not implement a reform like that?

Second, the report found that, contrary to what some might expect, CWS would actually increase the amount of police services provided taxpayers, for the same dollar expenditure. Specifically, CWS would add the equivalent of an additional 141 officers to the streets of our large and under-policed town, at no extra cost. That's a huge bonus, especially when considering that LAPD is currently short nearly 1,000 officers and having difficulty filling those vacancies with qualified candidates.

Third, and perhaps most important, we know from studies across the nation that the benefits of CWS also include improved morale, improved family relationships, enhanced officer productivity and increased departmental success in recruitment and retention.

We know from talking with our current members and from exit interviews with members who have left LAPD for other departments, implementation of CWS

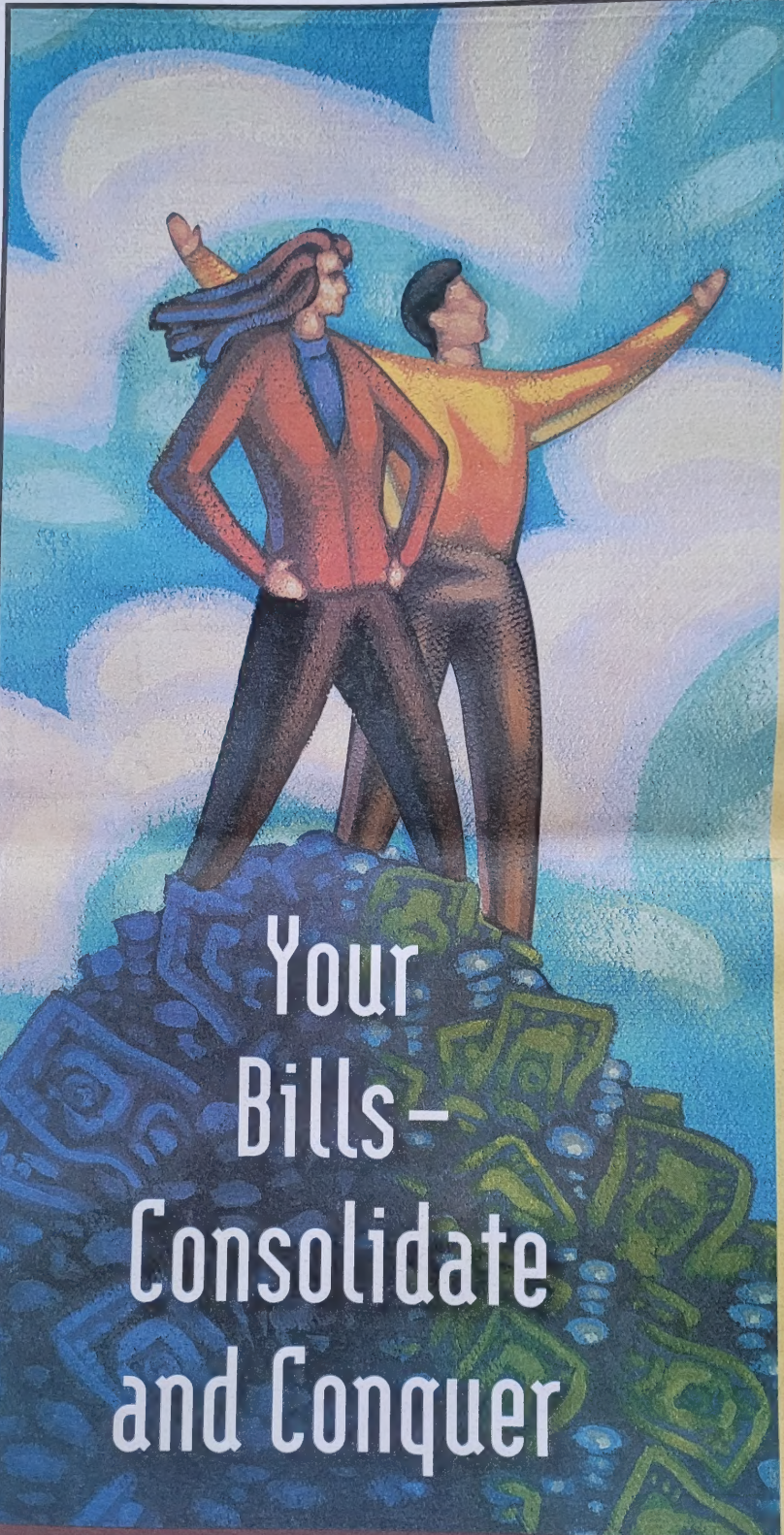
Morale is no small matter. Let's face it, while we are all proud of our department, its training, traditions and professionalism, we also know it has serious morale problems. According to a recent survey done by UCLA and USC, 57% of officers said they would leave the department if they could. Twenty percent said they were "burned out." The reports author commented, "officer morale and quality of life is eroding. All the numbers are going the wrong way."

The municipal elections coming up on April 10, 2001, provide a wonderful opportunity to make CWS a reality at LAPD. Recently, the LAPPL Board of Directors announced it is calling on all candidates for Mayor of Los Angeles to sign a pledge stating that, if elected, he or she would support CWS and appoint members of the Police Commission that will support CWS. In announcing this initiative, I stated:

"We propose that every candidate for Mayor of Los Angeles state publicly whether he or she will make the commitment to implement compressed work schedules for LAPD officers. We're just asking them to look at the facts and tell us where they stand. They're free to say what they believe, and we're free to support or oppose them, depending on what they say - that's the American way."



Photos on pages 30-31



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WORKING FOR YOU

BOB BAKER, VICE PRESIDENT

An Open Letter "To Whom It May Concern"

The forecast for the expansion of the Los Angeles Police Department does not look good in 2001. The Department is authorized 10,054 police officers. As of February 1st, 2001, the number of active sworn personnel has decreased to 9,139 (could drop even more). From July 1, 1999, through June 30, 2000, 671 officers left the LAPD due to attrition (regular retirements, medical pensions, resignations, terminations and deaths). During the first three months of this fiscal year, attrition had already climbed to 257, projecting an increase over the previous year. As of February 1, 2001, a total of 1,832 officers are eligible to retire with 20 or more years of service (788 with 20-24 years, 669 with 25-29 years and 375 with 30 or more years). There will be no January recruit class. In February, Training Division hopes to swear in 40-50 new police officer recruits. The trend will be to start classes every other month, if possible. Letters have been circulated to recent retirees asking them if they want to come back. Is there a way to stop this downward spiral?

Our Memorandum of Understanding July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2003, which included POST bonuses, has been a major step in the right direction for officers across the board. However, while we, as your representatives, were

very pleased with the contract, we recognize the dilemma we continue to be in, and are continuing our efforts in several areas to make further improvements. Some of the areas needing more work include, working towards securing a more flexible work schedule, fighting the consent decree and exploring remedies for retaining those of you who have attained 20 or more years of service and contemplating retirement, and those approaching this important milestone in your careers.

This month, the League is working with City Council to create a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP), and pension enhancement. City Council has instructed the City Attorney to draft language for inclusion on the April ballot creating an ordinance for DROP. I would like to specifically address DROP.

DROP - This plan allows eligible employees to continue working, while for pension plan purposes, they have fixed their retirement payout. Their pension benefit is frozen and their monthly pension benefits check, instead of being sent to them, is "deposited" into the pension plan. The employee agrees to continue working for a fixed period (usually two to five years), during which the system credits to a hypothetical account the pension checks they have received by retiring. The employee continues to

receive their current job's salary and benefits, and all other rights.

To better illustrate DROP, I will use a Detective II with 28 years of service who qualifies for a 64% service retirement rate. The detective's annual gross salary would be \$77,697.00. If the detective participated in DROP, the detective would have accumulated an estimated \$271,930.22 at the end of five years. This account is really just part of the plan's general assets and grows with interest at a stipulated rate. When the employee does retire, they will receive the account balance as a lump-sum distribution, an annuity, or roll it over into an IRS-qualified account, in addition to the monthly pension benefit that had been earned before electing DROP.

As discussed by Charles E. Chittenden in *Pensions & Investments*, "Entering a DROP usually makes good financial sense for the employee when plan provisions such as benefit or service caps restrict their ability to earn future benefits. On the other hand, employees who expect large pay increases in the future should avoid DROPs so their pensions will reflect those increases. A participant eligible to enter a DROP must weigh the lump sum that it offers against consequences of participating, including giving up increases in monthly pen-

sion that would have resulted from future service and pay hikes."

DROPs offer several advantages to employers. They can help in succession planning by giving advance notice of when employees will retire. In some instances, they encourage employees contemplating retirement to stay a few years longer, giving the system the advantage of their experience and expertise. Also, the popularity of DROPs around the country has helped employers in recruitment and retention efforts. DROPs have been successful throughout the United States and there are 37 DROP plans in law enforcement and fire services in Texas alone.

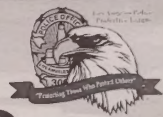
Those of you thinking about retirement face one of the biggest milestones in your life. Hopefully, the City will implement full pension reform, which will change your mind. If not, the City will not only lose those who qualify for retirement, but our younger officers who will simply lateral to other agencies with better benefits.

Do yourself and family a real service by exploring your retirement and financial options long before you "pull the pin." Remember, Sergeant Don Keith, the Department Retirement Counselor at Personnel Division, is an outstanding resource for learning about retirement and other considerations.

Stay safe out there!

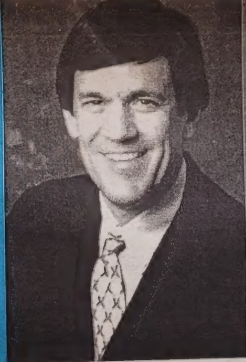
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PENSION UPDATE

CLIFF RUFF, SECRETARY

As you read this, the Los Angeles Police Protective League is in negotiations to attain competitive pension benefits with other public safety pension plans throughout the State of California. The City has agreed to place the DROP concept on the April 2001 ballot. Bob Baker will discuss DROP in his article. Your Board of Directors is striving to have the issues involving pension enhancements placed on the June 2001 ballot.

The Los Angeles Police Department is currently about 1,000 officers short of full staffing. LAPD, for many reasons, cannot recruit qualified candidates to fill the recruit classes. This coming July 1st there will be over 1750 officers eligible for retirement. If some positive changes aren't made, a significant number of those eligible officers will retire and further exacerbate the personnel shortage and further jeopardize public safety. The most recent actuarial valuation report for our pension system shows that we are very healthy with a 1.4 billion dollar surplus. We are currently 114% funded. Due to the health of our pension system, the City can afford to increase pension benefits with those of CALPERS and 1937 Act systems.

As of January 2000, all public safety members in CALPERS were eligible to negotiate for 85% service pension caps. The California Highway Patrol was given a 90% cap through separate legislation. This year, Senator Joe Dunn (D-Santa Ana) has introduced SB90 as a piece of legislation that will raise the CALPERS cap to 90%. The basic pension system of the state is at your 50th birthday, you receive 3% for each year of service, capped at either 85% or 90%.

The City, UFLAC (Firefighters Union) and the League are currently in negotiations to create a new pension system with a cap of 85% or 90% (The same as permitted in CALPERS). We are trying to educate the City that if LAPD does not offer competitive benefits (including 3% for 20 years service at age 50), the City will be unable to recruit or retain the best-qualified officers. One doesn't have to be a rocket scientist to decide to work for a department with a 70% pension or a department with a 90% pension. If we don't compete for the best, we'll only get the caliber of Rafael Perez. Because specifics are not available, I will try to define the concept of the League's goal.

A new system to be known as Tier 5 will be sought. It will be a 3% at age 50 concept with a cap of 85% or 90%. Most of the provisions of Article 35 will apply (3% COLA cap, 12-month salary average, and surviving spouse benefits, etc). The League is seeking the same COLA bank benefit that is provided to civilian retirees and refundability of member contributions should they decide to resign or get terminated.

Should a Tier 5 pension plan become law, it will be the system for anyone hired after the date of inception. A window of opportunity will be provided to all other active employees to transfer into the new system. It will be strictly optional.

Before changing pension systems, each officer should carefully analyze the changes that would personally affect them. Also, married officers would have to have their spouses sign their approval to changing plans because of their community property and benefit interests.

Article 18 (Tier 2) considerations:

1. Giving up the uncapped COLA. It is the single largest benefit you have. If inflation ever comes back as in the late 1970's, your 70% pension could be worth more than a 90% pension with a 3% cap.
2. Giving up your last day's salary base pension formula in exchange for the average of your last 12-months salary for the formula base. (New pay raises would not be reflected on a pension pay out.)
3. Surviving spouse benefits will change. Under Article 18 a surviving spouse receives a maximum of 55% of the member's base salary plus COLA adjustments. The new system provides 60% of the retirement plus COLA (which is slightly less money). Under the new system, if an officer is killed in the line of duty, the surviving spouse receives 75% of the base.
4. The new system would have an increased contribution rate to be determined in the negotiation process.

Article 35 Plan 1 (Tier 3) December 1980-July 1997 considerations:

1. Giving up deferred retirements before attaining age 50. The key would be working to age 50 to receive 3% credits.

continued on page 14

EDITORIAL POLICY

1. Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Los Angeles Police Protective League.
2. No responsibility is assumed for unsolicited material.
3. Letters or articles submitted shall be limited to 350 words and must be accompanied by writer's name but may be reprinted without name or address at writer's request.
4. Freedom of expression is recognized within the bounds of good taste and the limits of available space.
5. The Board of Directors reserve the right to edit submissions and/or include Editor's Notes to any submitted materials.
6. Deadline for submissions to the Thin Blue Line is the 6th of the following month's issue date.

NOTICE: The LAPPL is affiliated with the following organizations on the national and state level.

NAPO National Association of Police Organizations representing nearly 250,000 police officer members in 4,000 police associations nationwide.

CCLEA California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations representing 28 California police officer associations.

SCALE Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement representing 19 police officer associations.

THIN BLUE LINE (THE)
PUBLISHED MONTHLY
ISSN #0279-697X USPS 440-930
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Thin Blue Line (The) is the official publication of the Los Angeles Police Protective League and published monthly under the supervision of its Board of Directors. However, opinions expressed by individual Board members or any other writer in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the entire Board of Directors. \$15.00 of your annual dues is for subscription to Thin Blue Line (The).

Periodicals postage paid at Los Angeles, Calif. and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Thin Blue Line (The), 1308 W. 8th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90017, Fax: (213) 251-4566.

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Recognize Your Winners

In a time when everywhere you look you are taught how to prepare 128's, negative comment cards etc., I am dedicating this month's article on "how to write'em up for the good things." Recently, I was contacted by Sergeant Kieth Moreland of the Employee Assistance Unit who teaches awards and commendations in basic supervi-

sors school. In 1999 due to their efforts, Sergeant Kieth Moreland and Officer Vicki Bretz were given a chance to hold a class on awards and commendations. Since they have been doing this class in basic supervision school the amount of LAPD employees considered for awards has increased. In 1999 only 331 people were considered for awards. In the year 2000, the deeds of 1,313 Department employees were submitted

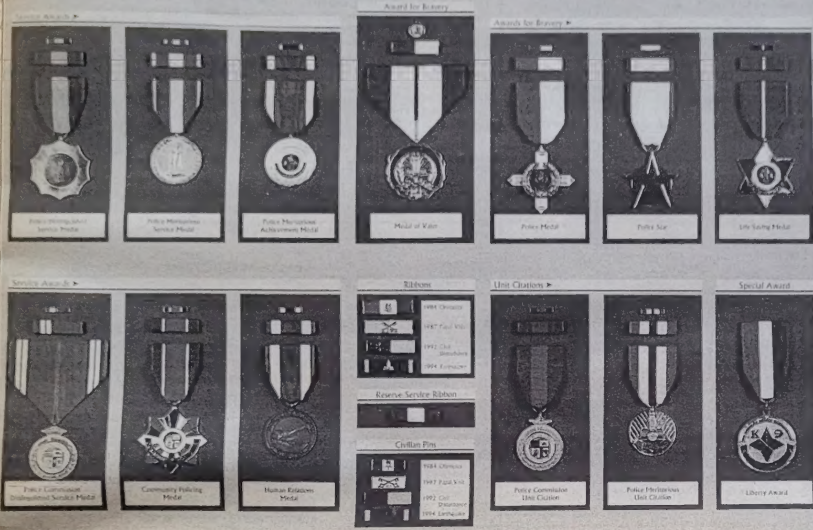
for recognition. I believe this was due to their efforts on reminding supervisors of the many different forms of recognition there are within the Department.

Sergeant Moreland has produced a very informative booklet titled "A commendation guide for LAPD Supervisors" which he gives out in his class. Due to space considerations, I can't reproduce the book in my article. However, I will have copies of it reproduced for pick-up at the front counter of the League. The document explains in simple detail how to write up and what to put in the different commendation forms so that LAPD employees get the proper recognition they deserve. In conclusion, I ask that every one of us take that time to recognize the good we do and if it is merited, write up the proper commendation. "Everyone needs recognition for their accomplishments. But few people make the need known quite as clearly as the little boy who said to his father: 'Let's play darts. I'll throw and you say Wonderful!'"

Good Job Sergeant Moreland and Officer Bretz!

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COLLEGE FAIR

TED HUNT

Developing Lifetime Learning

The Los Angeles Police Protective League will host the Fourth Annual Alan J. Garcia Memorial College Fair "Developing Lifetime Learning." We have formed a partnership for this event with Latin American Law Enforcement Association, Oscar Joel Bryant Foundation, Law Enforcement Association of Asian Pacifics, Golden State Peace Officers Association, Los Angeles Women Police Officers Association, Shomrim Society, Association of Black Law Enforcement Executives, Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club and the Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union.

Also joining us are the major rank-and-file associations representing peace officers nearby, including the California Association of Highway Patrolmen, Association of Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs, Peace Officer's Research Association of California, California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations and California Correctional Peace Officers Association.

The College Fair will be held March 8, 2001, from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. at the Los Angeles Police Academy, 1880 North Academy Drive, Los Angeles, California (near Dodger Stadium).

There will be over 40 colleges and universities represented. The Los

Angeles Police Credit Union will have a booth and will be prepared to discuss college loan programs. The POST Commission will have a booth and be prepared to examine the status of your POST Certificates. We hope to be able to provide a complimentary meal for all attendees again this year.

Everyone in the law enforcement family is invited — all agencies, both sworn and civilian. If your children are looking at going to college next year, they may want to attend.

We are co-sponsoring an effort with Sheriff Baca to obtain state funding for officers who go back to college. Right now, the idea is to reimburse any peace officer who successfully completes any college course in academic subjects relevant to police work at the tuition rate charged by the California State University system.

Education and training are both vitally important to ensuring that we are able to provide the most professional police services possible. We hope to see you there.

Hope for the Future

The Chemerinsky Report, the Wilms UCLAP Report and the Police Commission Report were all completed in the past year. We left the bonds of so-called "unionism" and took bold steps by reaching out to these researchers whose honorable intentions are to reform LAPD. The League over the last year and a half, was a leader in the movement to demand reforms in LAPD.

Each of those reports clearly pointed out the disastrous condition of LAPD. But the authors were not doomsayers. It is not the rank-and-file officers but BAD MANAGEMENT that is causing the problems at LAPD. They gave hope for a better future. And there is a brighter future if certain things happen.

The number one matter of urgency to the future of our Department is the pending City Elections. There is nothing

more important to us at this time, not just for the immediate future, but in the long range — than to elect qualified City representatives and leaders.

We have three candidates to whom we are dedicating our energies and resources.

Lea Purwin D'Agostino for Office of City Attorney

For the Office of City Attorney we are endorsing and supporting Lea Purwin D'Agostino. Lea is a 24-year veteran of the District Attorney's Office. She is a brilliant courtroom lawyer having racked up a most impressive number of convictions including putting numerous murderers away for good. Police officers throughout the City and County have worked with Lea and know her to be honest, ethical, tough and one who consistently and constantly works to keep gangs off the street and reduce violent crime. Those of you who know and respect Lea, we urge you to send her a contribution. Every dollar you send is doubled through matching funds. So if you send Lea \$50, it becomes \$100. Mail your contributions to:

D'Agostino for City Attorney
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We are also endorsing Dennis P. Zine for 3rd Council District and Ken Hillman for 15th Council District. You may make your support by contributing your volunteer time or by sending contributions to:

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FINANCIAL SECURITY

DON LINT

Financial security should be the goal of every one of you. We should all be preparing for the day that we retire or our kids go to college or get married. In order to prepare for those things we must put our financial house in order. The biggest problem that Americans have is **CREDIT CARD DEBT**. I bring this up in this article as we have just finished the holiday season and most people have made purchases using credit cards and many have put themselves deep in the hole. Credit cards are extremely convenient but very expensive. With interest rates on those purchases made over the holidays you might be making payments for years to come on this year's spending. We all incur expenses but some are more detrimental to our future financial security than others. If you have taken on more debt than you should have, I would encourage you to budget and pay that credit card debt off as soon as possible. Financial advisors will tell you to pay off that 13-21% interest debt before saving at a 3-6% interest rate. This isn't rocket science but many of us make it that complicated. With all the other stresses involved with being a police officer, money should not be one of them. Become debt free, your future will be brighter and your family will thank you when you do have the money for the really big important expenses.

As of January 1, 2001, the maximum deferred comp limit increased to \$8,500 per year. That comes out to \$340 per payday over 25 pay periods. You can change your deduction on the Internet at www.benefitscorp.com/cityofla or call (888) 457-9460. This is a tremendous benefit, use it and look forward to a financially secure retirement.

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We will be giving away a custom set of golf clubs to a lucky member that is signed up for our e-mail. If you are already signed up and receiving e-mail from us your name has already been entered. If you would like to have a chance to win, go to our site and sign up for e-mail. This drawing is currently only available to Los Angeles Police Protective League members.

If you have an event that you want people to know about please e-mail me about it at donlint@lappl.org and I will get it put on the website calendar. I know that our Associate Organizations have events coming up. We would like the opportunity to advertise those events for you on our site.

Political Elections

More news about individuals running for elected positions in the City of Angels. I know it's just what you want-

ed, but it is important that you and everyone around the city know the individuals that are running for elected office.

I received an article about a newly-elected Republican state lawmaker from New Hampshire. His name is Tom Alciere. This individual won the seat after running three other times, twice as a Libertarian and once as a Democrat. Nobody knew about this guy or his particular views but they voted for him anyway. He advocates killing police officers. Let me say it again, he advocates killing police officers. We need to know the people that are running for office and we need to know what they are all about; what their views are, what their beliefs are, and how they really feel about us in law enforcement.

Currently our City Attorney, James Hahn, the same one that is running for mayor, is attempting to set up some sort of TEAMS system within the City Attorney's Office. This is just what the ousted Gil Garcetti attempted to do and

we just had that stopped. The bottom line is James Hahn is no friend to anyone involved in the criminal justice system except the criminal.

Remember we have our own candidates running. Ken Hillman and Dennis Zine. We know how they feel. For more information on how you can help them, go to our website at www.lapd.com and click on the Members Only tab, then the Political Action tab. We need to get behind these guys and the biggest thing they need right now is money for their campaigns. All contributions by private individuals are doubled by the city. Example, \$25 = \$50. If each officer sent in just \$10, that would amount to \$90,000 before it is doubled. If each officer sent in \$25, that would amount to \$225,000! Remember this election will impact you and your family possibly for years to come. Invest a small donation for your future.

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2001 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

PETER REPOVICH

As I write this article, I have just completed my first LAPPL board meeting and have been confirmed by the Board as a full-fledged director. I am excited by the warm welcome I have received and looking forward to a good year. I think the make-up of the 2001 Board of Directors will be positive for the membership, and will benefit from the leadership of our first female president, Mitzi Grasso.

Committee assignments have been passed out and now I'm on the learning trail. My plan is to expose myself to as many issues as possible in the coming year. I will be serving as the chair of the following committees: Bylaws, Workers Comp, Property Management, Message Lines, and the Annual Picnic. Also, I will be serving on some 14 other committees so that I may learn as much as I can about LAPPL operations.

I will be working on a host of issues that are critical to the future of our membership. One of the most important in my mind is pension reform. The Los Angeles Police Department and the City of Los Angeles must realize and help bring to fruition a pension plan that benefits all officers. Our department has fallen behind and is not commensurate

with many other agencies when it comes to benefits. As an organization we must compete like everyone in the labor market. If we don't, everyone loses. The more-with-less type of thinking will not work this time around. Our city fathers must be guided by the principles of business and less by bureaucracy. Leaders should set politics aside more often and help make decisions because it's the right thing. A cost benefit analysis in my opinion would say, stop the dangerous level of attrition before you can't.

Another very important goal I have is to improve communication between the Protective League and the membership. On that note, please feel free to contact me at any time for any assistance I can give you. If I don't have the answer to your question I will find it. My telephone number is (213) 251-4554 or email peterrepovich@lappl.org

Through the coming year I will encourage anyone who has not involved themselves with the Protective League or any of the committees to do so, get involved, be a part of our future. Your member involvement is vital to our success.

Thank you, Peter Repovich.

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Los Angeles Police

MEMORIAL FOUNDATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

The Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation will issue five \$5,000 scholarships in June 2001. Each scholarship will be for \$5,000 per year for four years/\$20,000 maximum.

To be eligible, a student must be the child of a current LAPD employee off probation and be enrolled or accepted at an accredited college or university. Current college students must not have completed more than their sophomore year.

The merit-based awards will be made to students who have demonstrated:

- a) Excellence in academic studies;
- b) Good character and high moral standards; and
- c) Extra-curricular achievement

Each applicant is required to submit two letters of recommendation.

One must be written by a current (12th grade or college) teacher. The other letter may come from any unrelated adult who knows that applicant well enough to comment on his or her character and moral standards.

The deadline for receiving all materials is March 30, 2001. Applications may be obtained by contacting:



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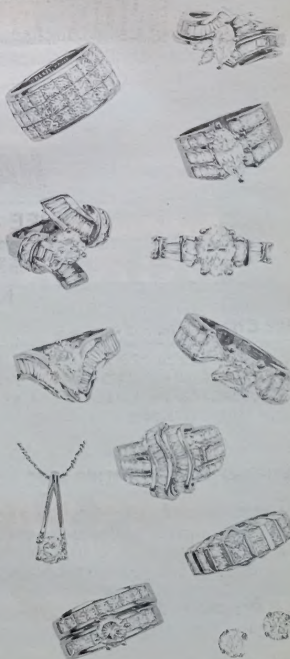
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The Honorable Verna Family Tradition of Protecting and Serving Los Angeles Continues

It was June 2, 1983, when his father was brutally murdered while enforcing traffic laws in the San Fernando Valley. Young Ryan Verna was just four years of age when his handsome dad Paul Verna, a Medal of Valor recipient, professional LAPD motor officer and loving husband and father, died of multiple gunshot wounds inflicted by multiple criminal suspects. As the years passed, life continued for the remaining members of the shattered Verna family. Sandy, the devoted mother, continued to raise her two sons while enduring the agonizing criminal trial of the murder suspects. Paul's parents John and Edith anguished at the untimely and senseless death of their successful and accomplished son. Time passed as Ryan, a quiet and polite young man, matured to adulthood. Ryan's older brother Bryce, nine years of age when his dad was murdered, became the man of the household. As more years passed and the memory of Paul Verna faded in the minds of many, others did not forget him. Many LAPD family members continued to support and encourage the boys and Sandy. The LAPD Family Support Group assisted the Verna family during the holidays. The dedication and commitment of

Sandy kept the boys on track. They remained good students and loving sons.

In December 1999, Bryce Verna graduated from the LAPD Academy and became a patrol officer in Devonshire Division. The *Daily News* front page story of December 2, 1999, featured a large photo of Bryce Verna holding his father's badge in a shadow box. In the background stood Sandy and Ryan Verna. The photo captured the pride of Bryce receiving badge number 193 which was his father's badge number. That was the day for Bryce to receive recognition and praise for his dedication and commitment to public service as a member of the LAPD.

More time passed and on December 15, 2000, Ryan Verna graduated from the LAPD Academy. The audience included motor officers, some of Paul's retired partners, Chief Daryl F. Gates and many others. They were all there to show their respect and pride for Ryan and his accomplishments.

Chief Gates presented a gold watch to Ryan while current and retired officers looked on to hear the kind and encouraging words from Chief Gates. There were retired motor Sergeants Buzz Camp, Jay Taylor and Bill Bowen, along with retired motor officers Tom Sawdon, Bob Young, Moffit Hays and a host of others. Many current LAPD motor officers and supervisors were

also present. Including motor Sergeants Ben Lee, Roger Archambault, Glen Wiggins, Bill Justice and Roy Ballesteros. The list of motor officers is too long to mention each name. I have captured their photos in the center spread of the paper.

We all wish Ryan great success as a member of the LAPD family, and may his career be filled with happiness, success and good memories.

Saint Michael is the patron saint of law enforcement officers. This prayer is dedicated to Ryan as he enters the career his father loved so much and for which he ultimately gave his life.

St. Michael, Heaven's glorious Commissioner of Police, who once so neatly and successfully cleared God's promises of all its undesirables, look with kindly and professional eye on your earthly force.

Give us cool heads, stout hearts, hard punches, an uncanny flair for investigation and wise judgement.

Make us the terror of burglars, the friend of children and law-abiding citizens, kind to strangers, polite to bores, strict with law breakers and impervious to temptations.

You know, St. Michael, from your own experiences with the devil that the policeman's lot on earth is not always a happy one; but your sense of duty that so pleased God, your hard knocks that so surprised the devil, and your angelic self-control give us inspiration.

And when we lay down our night sticks, enroll us in your Heavenly Force, where we will be as proud to guard the throne of God as we have been to guard the city of men, Amen.

Does a Double Standard Exist in the Current LAPD Promotional Process?

The last command officer transfer list of 2000 was troubling to many Department personnel from all ranks. The hidden message is very clear when you closely examine the names, reputations and careers of those commanding officers who were promoted and those highly-qualified commanding officers passed over for well-deserved promotions.

I recently represented a P-III with nearly 20 years of LAPD experience who was on the promotional list for detective. The officer had maintained

a good package, studied hard, prepared for the oral interview and finally made it. He was notified just a few days before the transfer effective date that he was being pulled off the list and sent to a board of inquiry for an adjudicated complaint he received 11 years ago. His board of inquiry was convened and he was notified he would not be promoted. The officer contacted the League and learned that many officers are facing the same consequences years after complaints have been closed.

Now you are a Captain II who had your police vehicle stolen due to your own negligence. The suspects took not only your police vehicle but your weapon and other city-owned police equipment. A few months later you learn that you are being promoted to commander. Yes, commander! You are being rewarded for your excellent performance and quality leadership, while your misconduct is ignored.

These cases are real and illustrate just how the Department's promotional process has become biased. While I do not support the federal monitor of \$130 million consent decree, I do believe that this type of double standard in practice will be flushed out. Fairness is fairness and management favoritism is wrong.

When dedicated and loyal captains and commanders are being passed over for well-deserved promotions for others who are politically correct in their views and attitudes, it is wrong.

The civil service system was designed to keep the promotional system clean and fair. It is no longer clean or fair. Why change in the future? Only time will tell as the Department struggles to hire and retain personnel. As the favoritism spreads in the management of the Department, more and more officers and good Department managers will throw in the towel and leave the Department with a bad taste for the Department they once loved.

City Council Race

My City Council race is going quite well. I invite you to view my web page at www.zineforcitycouncil.com for information on the campaign.

Dates to Remember

February 14 is Valentine's Day. Give some red roses to the one you love.



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A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL COUNSEL

by Hank Hernandez, Attorney at Law

Hysteria Over Rampart Officers Results In More Waste of Taxpayers' Money ("Fun Bus Case")

On October 24, 1998, Rampart Area's Holiday Committee coordinated a one day, chartered bus trip to a casino in Laughlin, Nevada. The passengers on the trip included both LAPD employees and their guests. The event was a fund-raising activity in support of the annual Rampart Area Holiday Party. The charter bus has twenty-four rows of seats. The bus seats fifty-two people. There were approximately forty-seven people on the bus; however, no headcount was taken on the bus, and names of the people who boarded the bus were never recorded. Seventeen of the people were non-employee guests. Seats were not assigned. There is no precise record to identify where people sat.

The bus ride to Laughlin was to be a party. Raffles, bingo and other activities were planned and played as part of the fund-raiser. The atmosphere of the bus was like that of a party, in a restricted space. There was loud music playing on built-in speakers in the bus. One passenger had music playing on a CD/tape cassette player. Passengers were talking loudly over the music. People were yelling and cheering in association with the raffles and bingo. People were consuming beverages and standing in or moving around freely in the aisle of the bus.

There was only one bathroom on the bus, and it was located in the rear of the bus where the alleged incident occurred. There was also a provided cooler containing food and beverages in the rear of the bus. These two factors contributed to the heavy flow of passenger traffic in the rear of the bus.

In November 1998, an anonymous letter was received alleging misconduct by a former clerk typist who was a passenger on the bus. That misconduct being that: (1) a sergeant egged the clerk typist to see what she could get for taking off her blouse. (There are no witnesses on the bus who claim to have seen or heard the sergeant "egging" the clerk typist on.) (2) Four other Rampart officers took up a collection of forty dollars and gave it to the clerk typist. (There are no

witnesses on the bus who claim to have seen the above individuals take up a collection and give it to the clerk typist.) (3) The view was partially blocked by a blanket but the clerk typist's breast and nipple ring could still be seen by people on the bus. (There are no witnesses on the bus who claim to have seen the clerk typist's breasts or nipple ring.) (4) There were some females "visibly upset" by the clerk typist's antics. (In their interviews and testimony at the BOR, the females claimed that they were not upset and did not see any of the alleged behavior.) (5) A supervisor who was sitting in the front of the bus did nothing to stop the alleged behavior from occurring. (The supervisor testified at the BOR that he did not see the alleged incidents.)

A complaint investigation was initiated and investigated by Rampart Area. A supplemental investigation by IAG was ordered and the original investigation was found to be incomplete and a recommendation was made that the investigation be reassigned to a different investigator, and completely re-investigated. The investigation of this matter involved three different investigators and took almost twelve months to complete. It was **imprudently adjudicated "sustained"** and six veteran Rampart members were demoted, transferred, reduced in pay, and thrust into an administrative limbo that continues on and on—all because of rumors. This case should never have seen the light of day!

I am especially pleased to inform you that on January 2, 2001, the Board of Rights in the matter was finally completed after many months of protracted hearings during which time our six Rampart members languished in a state of this administrative limbo while the Board of Rights process grinded on, and they suffered the now-familiar downgrades, transfers, and loss of paygrades, pursuant to the new "policy on integrity issues."

Each of the Rampart members was charged with basically three (3) counts each of misconduct except one: (1) failing to intervene and/or report misconduct; (2) encouraging the clerk typist to remove her top and display her breast and "nipple ring" for money; and (3) making false statements (by denials) to investigators.

The defense team consisted of League Panel Attorney Michael P. Stone, Defense Reps Edward Camarillo, Bob Grant, Bill Suddeth, Laurie Guillen, Bob Simpach and Cliff Armas. The Board members were Captain Mike Hillmann and Captain Chuck Roper, along with Mr. Jerry Ellner. The Advocates were Vito Pallazollo and Beverly Wilson.

Twenty-four witnesses were called. Additional witness testimony was received by stipulated submission of statements. The defense presented an extensive written motion, replete with citations to transcripts of the record, at close of the Department's case, for judgment of acquittal/directed verdict. The Board of Rights denied it, offering that while it was well-taken, the Board of Rights "has a duty to hear all of the evidence," and would wait to hear if the Department could put its case together in the defense presentation(?). This, over a strong defense objection that "... it isn't going to get any better. We're pumping a dry well."

And of course, it didn't get any better. After a short and crisp defense case, the case was submitted for decision. The result: **not guilty on all 16 counts.** The rationale was well-thought out and articulated principally, we assumed, so that the Board of Rights can deflect and survive criticisms and questions from on high in the Department. However, the rationale was not particularly complimentary of the Department's adjudicative process that saw this tired dog of a case sent to a Board of Rights—recall that there were three successive investigations: the first one by a Rampart complaint sergeant, came up with no substantial (provable) evidence of misconduct. Assigning that development to an incompetent investigation (it was not), the Rampart command staff reassigned the case for a "new" investigation and review process, in a result-oriented

effort to find something wrong with which to tar our members. When that didn't produce anything, the commanding officer of Rampart Area used the adjudicative ("Skelly") process to sustain charges with no evidence in support, in a fantasy-like excursion through an evidentiary wonderland. Indeed, it would be high comedy were it not for the irreparable and outrageous injury and detriment that this flawed adjudication caused these veteran members.

The defense for the accused officers also took the time to prepare a 30-page written closing brief with citations to the transcripts to provide the Board of Rights with a road map leading to where they believed it determined to go. This tended to keep the Advocate's closing argument honest, and permitted the Board of Rights to quickly find the testimony it needed to support the rationale.

"All is well that ends well" has no application here. Although the members prevailed, after much waste of City's taxpayer's money, nothing will repair the damage to these good members' psyches and careers. The League is pursuing some remedies for these members as plaintiffs in a federal civil action.

To close, over the many months, we at the League and their defense team quite naturally have developed a great affection for each of our accused members and we look forward to when they will obtain something more in the way of a suitable remedy for this injustice. They certainly deserve it. To our Panel Attorney Mike Stone and to our "team" Defense Representatives, you all endeavored to make your study sessions and your presentation of evidence razor-sharp; and we believe they were. Congratulations for a job well done!

Be safe out there. Feel free to contact us at the League with any questions that you may have.

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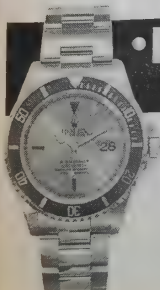
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WARNING BELL

by Gary Ingemunsun, Attorney at Law

"Never send to know for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee"
John Donne

Report of the Rampart Independent Review Panel

In November of last year a panel of attorneys and other community members, known as the Rampart Independent Review Panel, completed a report and submitted recommendations to the Police Commission. It is an interesting report and will, no doubt, figure prominently in what is going to happen to the Department in the coming year. You should read this report in its entirety. It's on the internet at www.lapd.org. This month's article will consist almost entirely of quotes from the report. You need to know how badly it bothers some folks that more LAPD officers aren't prosecuted criminally when officers are involved in shootings and uses of force. Emphasis is added.

Although the Department's written policies regarding the use of force are admirably clear and restrictive, the Department's methods of investigating and adjudicating officer-involved shootings (OIS) and uses of force (UOF) are flawed. There are structural problems in the way in which LAPD is organized to investigate such incidents. These problems include a lack of clarity in the roles performed by OIS/UOF investigators; the impact of the Los Angeles City

Charter's one-year limitations period on administrative investigations; the possible tainting of criminal investigations by compelled officer statements; and deficiencies in the manner in which OIS/UOF investigations are conducted and reviewed internally. Page 108

The LAPD must give priority to criminal investigations by placing such investigations in the hands of experienced LAPD investigators dedicated to identifying potential criminal conduct and reporting it not only to the Chief of Police, but to the District Attorney's Office for criminal prosecution; reassign criminal investigative responsibilities to the Internal Affairs Group; form a new Use of Force Division to conduct administrative investigations of use of force incidents; have UOF investigators work closely with the Risk Management Division and training Group to identify at-risk officers and enhance tactics training; and improve communications and coordination with the District Attorney's Office to enhance the Department's credibility with respect to its investigation of officer-involved shootings and uses of force. Page 109.

The panel made the following finding:
"1. The Department seriously compromises criminal investigations of officer-

involved shootings and major uses of force incidents by commencing its administrative investigation first." Page 110

In short, anything that impedes the filing of a criminal complaint against officers is defined as a problem.

The LAPD practice creates serious problems. First, it creates the risk that the statute of limitations on criminal misdemeanor uses of force will run before completion of the LAPD investigation. Misdemeanors in California have a one-year statute of limitations. Many excessive use of force cases, if criminal, could be filed as misdemeanors." Page 111

On advice of LAPPI counsel, nearly all LAPD officers refuse to speak until after they receive the Lybarger admonition which investigators then give routinely. Should a criminal investigation ensue at some later point, neither the prosecutors nor the criminal investigators may make use of the compelled statement, and any exposure of prosecutors, criminal investigators, or even witnesses to the statement may taint the entire investigation and thus jeopardize a prosecution." Page 112

"If the LAPD, like the LASD and the NYPD, conducted its criminal investigation first, this danger would not arise because no Lybarger admonition would be given until after the criminal investigation was concluded. Moreover, the Panel believes that many officers would eventually speak voluntarily to the Department's investigators, rather than allow the criminal investigation of their conduct to proceed without their input." Page 112

The absence of voluntary statements by LAPD officers in part reflects the distrust that pervades relations between the Department's management and its rank-and-file officers, and the usually combative stance of the League — matters we address elsewhere in this report. But the LAPD's routine administration of the Lybarger warnings at the outset of investigations into the officer-involved shootings and major uses of force makes an officer's refusal to talk without such a warning costless to the officer. If the administrative investigations and Lybarger warnings were routinely delayed until the completion of the criminal investigation, refusing to talk without that warning would carry a serious cost for the officer: the inability to explain what happened. The experience of other departments suggests that it is a cost many if not most officers would be unwilling to pay." Page 113.

The panel also made the following finding:

"3. The Department's investigation of officer-involved shootings and major uses of force too often is lax and fails to treat these cases as potential criminal matters." Page 116.

The RHD and DHD investigators are blamed by the panel for this failure. Apparently, according to the panel, these investigators just can't get it through their heads that the police officers are suspects, not victims of criminal activity.

"Similarly, the interviews conducted by RHD and DHD in officer-involved shootings and use of force cases often reflect a failure to approach these cases as potential criminal matters. As discussed above, RHD and DHD detectives routinely use Lybarger admonitions to obtain statements from officers, potentially tainting any subsequent criminal investigation, and minimizing the chance that officers will decide to speak voluntarily. Moreover, the questioning of officers by the RHD and DHD detectives is not always as probing as would be expected in a criminal investigation or in an investigation that might become criminal." Page 117.

Not surprisingly, the panel makes the following finding:

5. The Department has protocols for investigating uses of force by officers and, in appropriate, referring them to the District Attorney." Page 123.

The panel found fault with the current policy to the City Attorney's Office to charge is a misdemeanor. They argue that since the City defends you, the criminal branch will be prejudiced in its decision not to file a criminal complaint against you.

Cal. Penal Code Section 147.3 specifically addresses assault, but not officers acting under color of risk. That statute is implicated by the use of force by an officer in a use of force investigation should be referred to the District Attorney's Office, and prosecutors determine if such a charge is warranted. However, if the District Attorney determines that the case should be treated as a misdemeanor which is retained jurisdiction rather than referred to the City Attorney, the will eliminate the protection that currently underpins the consistent prosecution of officer conduct. Moreover, the LAPD may refer these matters to the District Attorney's Office in a time-consuming process to enable prosecutors to make a charging decision prior to the completion of any relevant criminal investigations." Page 131

If you believe that you have been wrong when you have been in an officer-involved shooting or use of force, that is only the first step in consideration on whether or not a voluntary statement to investigators should also believe the Department's investigation of the matter was fair and free from political considerations. You then should believe that the Commission's decision on the matter be fair and free from political considerations. Finally, you should believe that the Los Angeles jury will render a fair verdict free from political considerations.

If you believe all of this, then you might consider giving a voluntary statement, but only if your actions were only perfect, but you can prove they were perfect. Remember, you are giving up certain civil protections and you give a non-compelled statement.

On the other hand, why take a chance that your voluntary statement will be twisted and used against you by an anti-police group and police abuse litigation firm encouraged by the Department to believe without a question or even everything Raphael Perez says. LAPD officers are not hunters, they are hunted. You have a tremendously difficult job. You need every advantage of protection you can get. The panel's recommendation to the Police Commission to discourage you through intellectual blackmail to assert simple protections and rights provided to you by the Police Officer's Bill of Rights, should make you hear warning bells. No one is thinking about your personal welfare on this issue. Arm yourself with the knowledge and look out for your best interests. No one is depriving anyone with the right to know what happened during an Officer Involved Shooting or a Use of Force case any information. When ordered to give a statement, you must comply or be faced with insubordination. The Chief has a right to see your statements. The Police Commission has a right to see your statements. The District Attorney has a right to see your statements. The only difference between a compelled and non-compelled statement is that your statement cannot be used against you in a criminal investigation. If that bothers them, then that should bother you. Something more than information is being sought.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters To The Editor is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Letters must be limited to 350 words or less. Letters over the limit will be returned for editing by the writer. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

The Cause and Effect of the Federal Consent Decree

by William A. Scheideker, #17576,
LAPD Retired

Historians and economists have what is known as a "cause and effect" theory. That is, if A happens then B, C and D happened or will happen. The federal consent decree is that A is this equation. It is one of the most ill-conceived things I have ever seen, but given the ineptitude of our federal government, it does not surprise me.

League Director Don Lint, in his December *Blue Line* article, outlined the main players in this thing as well as their motives. When the consent decree takes effect, every LAPD officer will have to follow it to the letter for career survival. Officers who continue to do proactive police work will be playing Russian roulette with their jobs.

This is where the cause and effect comes in. First off, as Don Lint pointed

out, officers will leave in droves. The personnel crisis that the LAPD currently is having will only get worse. Additionally, arrests will fall dramatically. With far fewer arrests, there will be less cases to be heard in court. Superior Court judges will sit in their courtrooms twiddling their thumbs as the county may have to lay off court clerical staff, court reporters, etc. The District Attorney's Office, having far fewer cases to prosecute, may have to lay off deputy D.A.s and investigators as well as support staff as may the City Attorney's Office. This ripple effect will work its way down the criminal justice system.

Citations will plummet as well. While not a big source of revenue for the city, those who take a piece of the pie on traffic fines will get far less revenue. Management might try to push recap but they cannot order you to violate the consent decree. About the only arrests that will be made will be off of radio calls. Once the gang-bangers and other crimi-

nals catch on, crime will continue to skyrocket and the cause and effect, as Don Lint stated, will be businesses leaving the city, property values going down, less tourists, etc., etc.

Councilwoman Miscikowski wrote an article in the December *Blue Line* in which she recognizes that LAPD is in a serious personnel crisis. But it is my understanding that Nate Holden and Hal Berson were the only Council people who voted against the consent decree. Apparently our city leaders do not understand the cause and effect that the consent decree will have, but they will soon find out.

Police work, even when I came on in 1972, was a difficult and demanding job. It has become an impossible job today. As several League Directors have stated, the consent decree will be the final nail in the coffin of what was an aggressive, proactive agency. It may get so bad that Bernie and his command staff might have to work a black and white. They too will find out about the cause and effect of this federal branchchild.

These are dismal times for Los Angeles Police Officers. With recent adverse court rulings and now being sold down the river by our city politicians (the same ones elected by the voters to act in the best interest of the city), this could be the final straw on the camel's back.

I'm reminded of the opening sentence of Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities* that these are the best of times (best contract ever, FLSA lawsuit settled, binding arbitration as state law), these are the worst of times (1.28 system, federal consent decree, adverse court rulings). With the first few months of the year being a high retirement period, I wonder where we'll be in a few short months. It would not surprise me if LAPD is down over 1,200 sworn positions by mid-April. That is enough personnel to staff four LAPD patrol divisions.

In another Charles Dickens book, *A Christmas Carol*, the ghost of Christmas future was the spirit that Scrooge feared the most. Like Mr. Scrooge, I too am fearful of the future of the city of Los Angeles and we can thank our politicians for that.

Dear Editor:

Healing the Children California is pleased to announce the election of West Valley Sgt. Gregory J. Renner as president of the organization beginning January 1, 2001. Gregory and his wife Laura have served on the board of directors since January, 1998, and have been active in fundraising, foster parenting and other activities for the organization. Sgt. Renner has been with the Department for over 20 years.

Healing the Children California is a Valencia-based 501(c)3 non-profit that coordinates donated medical services to children around the corner and around the world. The chapter is part of a nationwide organization founded in 1979 by Gary & Cris Embleton.

The California chapter sent a plastic surgery team to Guatemala to offer donated cleft lip and pallet surgeries to more than 20 children in late November. In early December, over 30 needy San Fernando area children received free eye exams and glasses as Healing the Children partnered with the Northridge Lenscrafters on "Hometown Days." Also in December, thanks to volunteer foster

parents, Healing the Children brought an eight-year-old Russian girl born with only one complete leg to California for treatment at Shriners Hospital in Los Angeles. Throughout the fall, area volunteers collected over 225 backpacks filled with shoes, clothes, toys, school supplies and toiletries for needy children locally and in Guatemala and Mexico.

If you would like to be a foster parent, volunteer, make a donation, or simply want more information, please call 661-288-1957 or check out the Web site at <http://www.healingthechildren.org> "Healing the Children... one child at a time."

Submitted by Laura Renner
Director, Public Relations
Healing the Children

COP IS OUT OF TOUCH

We had a lively roll call discussion recently when the latest promotions list was released. Everyone was STUNNED. It was obvious by the choices for Commander that our beloved Chief is out of touch and doesn't understand morale (wish he would attend West Point Leadership Training) or double standards.

What is Chief Parks thinking when he promotes a Captain who commands a division with one of the lowest morale problems in the Department? Captain Ward's name has always been linked with heavy handedness and not backing officers. Slap in the face of the working officer to promote this guy. Now instead of just affecting one division, he will be affecting several.

He promotes a Captain Paysinger to Commander. He has never commanded a patrol division, but he is qualified to be a Commander. Yeah, right. What about double standards? It hasn't been a year yet since Paysinger committed misconduct. What happened to his fitness review hearing for promotion? Here is Captain who loses his car, two guns, badge, I.D. card, and Dept. papers, while leaving his car running in a questionable area of Long Beach. He then doesn't report it immediately but goes out looking for his vehicle first. Poor judgment. What does he get for this? A promotion to Commander.

Here are two examples why the Chief just doesn't get it.

Withhold name for fear of retaliation

Dear Editor of the *Los Angeles Times*:

For the past year I have read about the corruption scandal of the LAPD from the *Los Angeles Times* "unbiased" perspective. I have meant to write a letter but the letter never happened until I read "Perez's Bitter Saga of Lies, Regrets, and Harm" on December 31, 2000, by Terry McDermott.

Yes, Rafael Perez is a newsworthy figure in that he is "the worst police officer in the history of Los Angeles, lying, scum, a traitor, a career drug dealer, a gangster." I still find it hard to believe that the leading newspaper in Los Angeles felt that Mr. Perez's story required additional print. Were three additional pages really necessary so the public could be reminded that he is a forceful, eloquent and remorseful liar? I agree with Mr. Perez that he is "a mon-

continued on next page

END OF WATCH



NAME: Earl E. Dillon #3411

RANK: Policeman

ASSIGNED TO: North Hollywood

BORN: January 7, 1920

APPOINTED: November 15, 1945

RETIRED: January 1, 1966

DIED: September 30, 2000

★ ★ ★

NAME: Marvin A. Kilpatrick #11137

RANK: Lieutenant I

ASSIGNED TO: Central Traffic

BORN: September 4, 1939

APPOINTED: April 30, 1962

RETIRED: August 1, 1987

DIED: October 22, 2000

★ ★ ★

NAME: Leslie C. Johnstone #2384

RANK: Lieutenant

ASSIGNED TO: Van Nuys

BORN: April 11, 1914

APPOINTED: April 10, 1941

RETIRED: October 6, 1964

DIED: October 28, 2000

★ ★ ★

NAME: Joseph J. Bako #13891

RANK: Police Officer III

ASSIGNED TO: Personnel

BORN: April 14, 1937

APPOINTED: March 24, 1968

RETIRED: May 14, 1976

DIED: November 20, 2000

★ ★ ★

NAME: Alfred J. Swern #4431

RANK: Policeman

ASSIGNED TO: Venice

BORN: July 31, 1917

APPOINTED: April 7, 1947

RETIRED: September 19, 1965

DIED: November 30, 2000

★ ★ ★

NAME: Paul S. Norby #2790

RANK: Policeman

ASSIGNED TO: Supply Division

BORN: January 1, 1914

APPOINTED: April 13, 1942

RETIRED: January 7, 1973

DIED: December 3, 2000

★ ★ ★

NAME: Albert J. Haring #4122

RANK: Policeman

ASSIGNED TO: Central Jail

BORN: April 11, 1917

APPOINTED: November 5, 1946

RETIRED: March 31, 1966

DIED: December 6, 2000

★ ★ ★

NAME: Austin G. De Moulin #3404

RANK: Policeman

ASSIGNED TO: University

BORN: December 15, 1918

APPOINTED: January 16, 1946

RETIRED: February 10, 1966

DIED: December 11, 2000

★ ★ ★

NAME: Donald O. Benton #11342

RANK: Lieutenant II

ASSIGNED TO: Wilshire

BORN: May 5, 1932

APPOINTED: February 4, 1963

RETIRED: July 3, 1988

DIED: December 12, 2000

★ ★ ★

NAME: Richard D. Adams #6308

RANK: Sergeant I

ASSIGNED TO: Jail Division

BORN: November 20, 1926

APPOINTED: June 16, 1949

RETIRED: June 23, 1979

DIED: December 18, 2000

★ ★ ★

NAME: Billy Ray McGlothlin #21628

RANK: Police Officer II

ASSIGNED TO: West Traffic

BORN: October 22, 1945

APPOINTED: October 29, 1975

RETIRED: October 29, 1995

DIED: December 22, 2000

★ ★ ★

NAME: Hugh R. Murchison, Jr. #6591

RANK: Policeman

ASSIGNED TO: TED

BORN: June 13, 1927

APPOINTED: February 1, 1950

RETIRED: February 9, 1970

DIED: January 3, 2001

✱

Letters to the Editor

continued from page 13

ster" and that other officers should look to him as an example of what not to become. But Mr. Perez is not a product of the LAPD and its structure. Mr. Perez is the product of a weak and criminal mind.

Instead of writing about a criminal who "wears the county blue jail jumpsuit better than some men wear Armani," maybe the *Los Angeles Times* could write about an LAPD police officer who wears the LAPD blue uniform with honor and dignity. Maybe the *Los Angeles Times* could write about one of the 9,500 police officers who serve the city of Los Angeles without media, public, and command staff support. Maybe the *Los Angeles Times* could write about an LAPD officer who holds the slogan "to protect and to serve" to heart and does this day in and day out.

Maybe when an LAPD officer dies in the line of duty while protecting and serving the city of Los Angeles, maybe then the *Los Angeles Times* will write about a police officer who wore the blue of the LAPD and wore the badge of the finest law enforcement agency in the country better than a man wore the county blue jail jumpsuit.

Sincerely,
Anna M. Young
(wife of LAPD officer)
e-mail: am_young@yahoo.com

FROM: Julie McAllister
RE: January Article on Visit to Sgt. Harvey R. McAllister

Dear Editor:

Thank you for printing the article on our visit to celebrate my Uncle, Sgt. Harvey McAllister's, birthday and bring a little cheer to him. He has since left Health South Hospital and receives mail at a different address.

COULD YOU PRINT AN UPDATE OF HIS MAILING ADDRESS IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

HARVEY R. MCALLISTER
(Sgt. Ret. LAPD, #5007)
1775 POSO FLAT RD.
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308-9118

Thank you,
Julie

P.S. He has been receiving mail from across the United States in response to a number of articles that have been printed. Thank you so much for your recognition and support. It has meant the world to him.

"The Police"

Well, Mr. Citizen, it seems you've figured me out. I seem to fit neatly into the category where you've placed me. I'm stereotyped, standardized, characterized, classified, grouped, and always typical.

Unfortunately, the reverse is true: I can never figure you out.

From birth you teach your children that I'm the bogeyman, then you're shocked when they identify with my traditional enemy, the criminal!

You accuse me of coddling criminals, until I catch your kids doing wrong.

You may take an hour for lunch and several coffee breaks each day, but point me out as a loafer for having one cup.

You pride yourself on your manners, but think nothing of disrupting my meals with your troubles.

You raise hell with the guy who cuts you off in traffic, but let me catch you doing the same thing and I'm picking on you.

You know all the traffic laws, but you've never gotten a single ticket you deserve.

You shout "foul" if you observe me driving fast to a call, but raise the roof if I take more than ten seconds to respond to your complaint.

You call it part of my job if someone strikes me, but call it police brutality if I strike back.

Edwardo Dominguez

The LAPD - Years 1945 vs 2000

1945 - Civilians had a typewriter on their desks for doing daily reports.

2000 - Everyone has an Internet access computer, and they wonder why no work is getting done.

1945 - You were taught to aim at your enemy and shoot him.

2000 - You spray 46 bullets into the brush, don't hit anything, and retreat because you're out of ammo.

1945 - Supervisors were professional first and they commanded respect.

2000 - Supervisors are politicians first and beg not to be given a wedge.

1945 - They collected criminal intelligence and analyzed it.

2000 - They collect your pee and analyze it.

1945 - If you didn't act right, the sergeant read you the riot act until you straightened up.

2000 - If you don't act right, they start a paper trail that follows you forever.

1945 - Medals were awarded to heroes who saved lives at the risk of their own lives. Medals are awarded to people who work at headquarters.

1945 - You ate in a police car on the way to a call for help, which was free, and you could have all the food you wanted. 2000 - You eat in a dining facility, every slice of bread or pad of butter costs, and you turn off your radio.

1945 - We called the criminals names like "assholes" and "jerks" because we didn't like them and we needed to show them who was boss.

2000 - We call the criminals the "clients" or "sir" because we don't want to offend them and have them complain.

1945 - Victory was declared when the criminal went to jail.

2000 - Victory is declared when the criminal says he is sorry and doesn't make a complaint.

1945 - A commander would put his butt on the line to protect his people.

2000 - A commander will put his people on the line to protect his butt.

1945 - All you could think about was getting 30 years on and becoming a civilian again.

2000 - All you can think about is getting off probation and becoming an officer at another department.

M. Fentress

Dear Editor:

Many patrol commands within the Department assign supervisors to conduct informal background investigations on police officers that wish to transfer to those commands. These informal background investigations are completed before the 1.40 is approved by the command of the patrol division of choice. The rationale behind these investigations is that commanding officers don't want to inherit "problem" officers from other commands and the perceived "administrative baggage" that comes with them. Given the disciplinary system nightmares that occur on a daily basis throughout the Department, no one can really fault patrol commanding officers from wanting to shield themselves from potential personnel problems. In fact, it's a good example of prudent risk management.

What is little known to patrol personnel is that this should be a two-way street, and their career survival depends on them knowing it. Recent officer involved shootings and the tactics involved have been commented upon by everyone from the news media, the community, and lawyers. BEFORE the investigation has even been completed. This places added pressures on the Department in adjudicating these use of force cases, whether it's fair to the involved officer or not.

It's out of our control. We can only hope that the Department's management make their decisions based on law and Department policy and that they ignore the political and special interest chaff.

Given the fact that many uses of force circumstances are an inevitable part of the job, other than not making contact with anyone during a shift, they are beyond an officer's control. What is under the officer's control is the ability to trust that his or her commanding officer is knowledgeable and has a profound understanding of the Department's use of force policy. The commanding officer's knowledge, understanding, and articulation of the use of force policy must be demonstrated without reservation, no doubt when the commanding officer represents an officer under his/her command at a Use of Force Review Board. Lack of preparedness, lack of understanding of the use of force policy, and the unwillingness to fight for the involved officer is a measurable and discoverable trait of commanding officers.

Given the current climate of uncertainty about the Department's disciplinary system and the effect that unadvised complaints have on an officer's ability to transfer or promote, I would suggest that before any officer submits a 1.40 to transfer to another patrol division, he or she should conduct their own informal background investigation of their prospective commanding officer's performance at recent Use of Force Review Boards. Use of Force Review Boards have officers' peers and matter experts as members, and I would suggest that they are a great source of information on a commanding officer's ability to present a use of force case on behalf of officers. An adverse finding at a Use of Force Review Board can result in a personnel complaint being initiated against the involved officer, and whether the use of force case is presented in a professional and unbiased manner on behalf of an officer, is something that officers still have some control.

This commentary is not intended to illustrate any specific use of force case, nor does it illustrate any individual commanding officer's performance at a Use of Force Review Board. Today, patrol officers are constantly and unfairly under the gun by the head-hunting mentality going on in the Department as a result of the Rampart crisis. This commentary illustrates but one issue where patrol officers have some small degree of control they can exercise to protect their careers. I suggest that patrol officers do their homework before requesting those transfers.

Stay safe, all...

Sgt. André Belotto, #26189
Newton Patrol Division

Ruff

continued from page 4

2. Receiving the benefits of the COLA bank on Tier 5.

Article 35 Plan II (Tier 4) July 1997- Present considerations:

1. Giving up a 20-year-and-out before age 50 benefit. The key would be working to age 50 to receive 3% credits.
2. You would receive the benefits of the COLA bank on Tier 5.
3. You would obtain refundability of contributions upon resignation or termination.

Please remember that the items in this article are not etched in concrete, but only conceptual as based on some benefits provided to law enforcement throughout the state. The deadline for placing this on the June 2001 ballot is

approximately February 14, 2001. Because of the financial health of our pension system, we believe we can negotiate increased pension benefits for our police officers similar to those in CALPERS. This can be done without a tax increase to the citizens who will be voting to authorize the City to develop these changes by ordinance.

Pension negotiations are complicated due to the large fiscal commitments and the comprehension of complex actuarial assumptions and other numbers. Both the Chief of Police and Commanders Doan and Kelepez are working with the League to provide benefits that will recruit and retain the best police officers in the world.

Be careful out there and pray that the City has the wisdom and leadership to make our Department the best with competitive benefits.



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POLITICAL FRONTLINE

Honoring Friends

David Commons

by Ted Hunt

Few patrol officers today know what a great friend that they had in David Commons who recently passed away. David's life spanned several careers including an early and very successful career in the entertainment industry and a distinguished career in state government in his later years. His energy was boundless, his insight was keen and incisive, his wit very dry and his passion to help rank-and-file officers ran deep.

When I was first assigned as our legislative representative six years ago, I knew how to be a traffic cop, but didn't know much about getting legislation passed. Three people took me under their wing and in four short years, working with other police associations, we had passed a record number of new laws to enable rank-and-file officers to do their job better. One of those mentors was David Commons.

David spent hours coaching, teaching, advising and demonstrating the art of political persuasion. In his last years he was an advocate for the California

National Guard. But he was also a friend of everyone on this agency, helping us to redirect money back to LAPD, to



League President Ted Hunt with Dave Commons in Sacramento's halls of government.

enhancing our legal rights as peace officers and protecting us from unwarranted attacks from our most harsh critics.

I am certain that David is walking the halls of the Celestial Congress, advocating for the best interests of the common person. ❖

Alan J. Garcia

by Ted Hunt

Alan J. Garcia was a native son of the Golden State. Born in Palo Alto, California, he joined the United States Marine Corps where he served this nation in the Korean War. Upon his return, he became a police officer for the city of Palo Alto and continued his schooling and graduated from Stanford University.

He was an advocate in Sacramento for better pensions and peace officer rights. After retirement, he continued to advocate for improved pensions and benefits as the president of the Retired Peace Officers Association of California, member of the PORAC Board and an active member of NAPO, our national affiliate.

Alan personally volunteered hundreds of hours in 1997 to help make the NAPO Convention in Los Angeles the most successful convention ever held by NAPO. Alan volunteered over a hundred hours each year to help make the College Day a success. At each

of these events, he also recruited and organized numerous retired officers in Southern California to assist in making these events a success. Alan passed away on December 11, 2000.



League Director Ted Hunt thanks Alan Garcia, President, Retired Police Officers Association, for his invaluable assistance at the League's College Day 2000.

Alan's goal was always to improve the lot of rank-and-file officers regardless of agency and to improve the pride we have in our profession. We honor him with the same pride. ❖

California Approves Landmark Measure Offering Treatment to Drug Offenders

On November 7, 2000, California voters approved by a very large margin a drug law reform measure requiring mandatory drug treatment, instead of jail time for offenders convicted of simple drug possession. The measure will also provide \$120 million a year for treatment programs.

This vote emphasizes what appears to be rising public dissatisfaction with drug sentencing policies, that mandate incarceration rather than treatment. An article in the *New York Times* says current laws are overcrowding jails at the public's expense, "without curbing either drug abuse or drug-related crime."

Passage of Proposition 36, which won on November 7 with 61% of the vote, will have a definite impact on the way California courts handle drug offenses. Currently nearly one in three of the state's 162,000 prisoners is serving time for a crime related to drugs. Under the new law, which will take effect in July, 2001, it is expected that as many as 36,000 drug offenders a year will be diverted from prison or jail into treatment programs. An estimated 20,000 a year will qualify for help in Los Angeles County alone.

By approving Proposition 36, voters followed the lead of Arizona and New York residents, who voted in similar

programs for drug offenders in the last four years.

The new law will allocate monies for treatment on the basis of population, region and number of drug arrests. The first year, \$60 million in funds will be available to counties. The second year and thereafter, \$120 million will be allocated annually. Los Angeles County expects to get about \$40 million yearly under the initiative.

There are certainly still some logistics to work out with so many prisoners being diverted to drug courts and treatment. San Francisco Chief Assistant Public Defender, Jeffrey Adachi, is concerned. "Given the current state of drug treatment facilities in California, we are talking about two-to-five years before there will be sufficient treatment slots," he told the *Los Angeles Times*. According to the same article, L.A. County judges are also bracing for an influx of prisoners, predicting that the number of offenders diverted into treatment could increase twenty-fold.

As is already the case in some L.A. and San Diego courts, offenders will go before a judge, who will mandate them to treatment. These offenders will complete the drug treatment program as part of their probation. ❖



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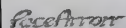
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P.O. II Mike Amado, #30744
P.O. II Samuel Soto, #30608
P.O. II Reno Dominik, #26550
P.O. II Al Munoz, #27719
P.O. II Fernando Avila, #31275
P.O. II Louis Cabrera, #31097
P.O. II John Marquez, #26670
P.O. II Christopher Mayes, #32009
P.O. II A. Gutierrez, #32545
P.O. III Denny Watkins, #12500
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P.O. II Robert Norman, #31844
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Major Crime Violator
Task Force "COBRA" Personnel

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Sgt. II J. Mead, #17238
Sgt. II J. Mayeda, #21824
Sgt. II P. Shannon, #22789
P.O. III+I D. Thompson, #27452
P.O. III+I J. Parker, #22494
P.O. III+I M. Storti, #26005
P.O. III+I R. Holcombe, #26870
P.O. III+I S. Griffith, #22225
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P.O. III C. Yzaguirre, #37097
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P.O. III L. Martinez, #31177
P.O. III T. Trusk, #30454
P.O. III G. Houser, #30831
P.O. III J. Nam, #31310
P.O. III E. Perez, #30602
Involved Metropolitan
Division Personnel

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Sgt. II T. Chamberlin, #24642
Sgt. II Reed, #21873
P.O. III M. Baker, #24964
P.O. III K. Bertonneau, #27664
P.O. III W. Casey, #25537
P.O. III+I O. Crenshaw, #22645
P.O. III S. Gordon, #26381
P.O. III K. Hunt, #26157
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P.O. III G. Pinel, #25503
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P.O. III R. Rico, #23573
P.O. III D. Sanchez, #27159
P.O. III+I J. Tepich, #24302
P.O. III B. Neil, #24282
Involved SWAT Personnel

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Lt. Robert Ordelheide
Sgt. Tony Ruelas
F.T.O. Larry Barnard
D.F.C.S. Tony Vairo
D.F.C.S. Jesse Paderez
Det. Joel Vasquez
Officer Danny Ambriz
Involved San Fernando Police
Department Personnel

A series of armed robberies occurred in Foothill and Devonshire Area during August and September. The suspects, identified as Carlos Gonzales and Juan Hernandez, selected fast food restaurants. They used a 1996 GMC burgundy pickup bearing license 5H16532 as their getaway vehicle. The suspects also committed one street robbery during this period. Foothill and Devonshire Area Detectives prepared crime alerts and provided information to field officers.

On August 29, Operation Valley Bureau Major Crime Violators COBRA was notified and requested to search for the suspects and their vehicle. COBRA officers located a possible vehicle parked backwards at 1124 Hollister Street in the city of San Fernando. A male suspect fitting the description of the robberies was seen standing by the vehicle. A surveillance of the location and vehicle was conducted to determine if the vehicle was the one used in the robberies. COBRA

officers conducted a surveillance on August 30 and 31. Two male Hispanics were seen entering the burgundy pickup and driving to known narcotic locations in the San Fernando Valley. There were no robberies with the burgundy pickup during these days.

On September 1 and 3, the suspects committed two more robberies. On September 5, COBRA officers continued their surveillance at 1124 Hollister Street. At 1700 hours, COBRA officers observed Carlos Gonzales and Juan Hernandez enter the burgundy pickup. The suspects drove to the area of Larkspur Street and Encinitas Avenue. Gonzales exited the vehicle and Hernandez remained seated. Gonzales was observed to adjust his shirt tight around the neck and pull his baseball cap down around the eyes. Gonzales proceeded to the McDonald's located at 12860 Encinitas Avenue. Gonzales entered the restaurant and sat at a table for a short time. He then exited the restaurant and walked to the rear of the building and removed what appeared to be a stainless steel handgun from his waistband. Gonzales then approached the drive-up window and committed a robbery. He took the cash tray and was seen running to the burgundy pickup here he handed the cash tray to Hernandez. Gonzales and Hernandez left in the vehicle and returned to 1124 Hollister Street where they were observed entering the residence. COBRA officers secured the area and contacted Metropolitan officers to assist in the arrest of Gonzales and Hernandez.

Metropolitan officers responded to 1124 Hollister Street at 1930 hours and secured the location. A call out was conducted with negative results. Carlos Gonzales fled on foot to the rear of the residence and attempted to conceal himself in the trees. He refused to surrender and continued to run back and forth entering and exiting the residence. Metropolitan officers were forced to conduct a use of force, which resulted in the arrest of Gonzales. Juan Hernandez barricaded himself in the residence causing the Special Weapons and Tactics Unit to respond.

On September 5, 2100 hours, the Special Weapons and Tactics Unit responded to 1124 Hollister Street. Juan Hernandez was taken into custody by SWAT on September 6, 0030 hours, he surrendered after the deployment of gas into the residence.

A parole search was conducted by Foothill Area Detectives at the residence. Detectives recovered two replica toy guns and cash trays taken during the crime spree. Miscellaneous clothing

used during the robberies was also recovered. A 1996 GMC burgundy pickup with license 5H16532 was impounded.

During the operation, the San Fernando Police Department assisted the Los Angeles Police Department. They provided intelligence on the suspects and maintained liaison with the Command Post. They provided shelter for the residents that were evacuated during the SWAT operation. This enabled officers to concentrate on the arrest of the suspects.

The COBRA Unit is to be commended for their attention to duty and surveillance techniques in locating two career criminals. Their training and perseverance has once again put a stop to a series of robberies affecting the San Fernando Valley. They are also commended for developing a game plan in arresting suspects after they committed a robbery. The use of Metropolitan Area and the SWAT Unit was instrumental in the arrest of the suspects.

Metropolitan Area is commended for their quick response and evaluation of the situation presented by the COBRA Unit. The containment of the suspects at their residence led to apprehension. The safety of the residents was ensured due to timely evacuation.

The SWAT Unit is commended for the extraction of a robbery suspect who barricaded himself in his residence and refused to come out. They are also commended for preserving and analyzing evidence used in several robberies.

Det. I.D. Razzano is commended for his after-hour response. He prepared a concise investigation, interviewed several witnesses and teamed up with Devonshire detectives in filing multiple felony counts on the suspects.

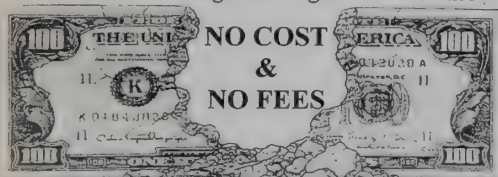
Chief of Police Dominick Rivetti and his personnel are commended for the assistance during the arrest of two robbers in the city of San Fernando. Officers provided assistance in providing shelter to residence that were evacuated. They also had knowledge of involved suspects, which was beneficial to the investigation.

The District Attorney's Office filed eight counts of robbery on Carlos Gonzales and five counts of robbery on Juan Hernandez. He also filed gun allegations on Gonzales and Hernandez.

Gonzales and Hernandez are hard-core San Fernando gangsters with lengthy criminal records. They were on parole during their crime spree. The arrest of these criminals will make the streets of the San Fernando Valley a safer place to live and work.

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COMMENDED OFFICERS:

Lewis, Michael, Serial No. 31575
Jaramillo, Robert, Serial No. 35692
Higuera, Martin, Serial No. 32277
Perez, Michael, Serial No. 32303
North Hollywood Division

Source of Activity

On 12-12-00, my partner Ofcr. Lewis #31575, and I, Ofcr. Jaramillo #35692 were working uniform patrol in a marked black-and-white police vehicle assigned 15A21. We received a radio call, "211 home invasion at 6859 Coldwater Cyn #2, Inc. #3877.

Observation
Upon arrival at approx 1915 hours, we were met by a female hispanic who was upset and shaken. Vict stated that she was victim of a home invasion robbery that occurred (15) minutes ago. We observed that the residence had been ransacked and the front window screen was lying on the ground near the front window. Upon entering the residence we observed that a table in the living room was knocked over and the chairs were lying on the ground. We also observed that the bedroom had also been ransacked and the closets and dresser drawers were opened and appeared to be ransacked. The bedroom window screen was lying on the floor near the bedroom window and the mattress on the bed was turned over.

Vict related the following to me: Approx (15) minutes ago she had just returned home from her parents home and went into the bedroom to watch television. (Vict stated that all the lights in the residence were off and the front door was locked.) Vict stated that she was lying on her bed in the bedroom with the door closed watching T.V. when she heard a crashing noise in the living room. Vict did not have an opportunity to investigate the noise because before she could get up to find out what the noise was, the susp had already opened her bedroom door and was standing there pointing a gun at her.

Susp then entered the room and stated, "Don't move bitch." Vict fearful for her life did exactly what she was told to do. Susp then started to look through vict's drawers and closets stating to vict, "Where is your money?" Vict told susp that she did not have any money on her or in the house, susp then left the room and went into the living room. Vict stated that she heard the susp talking to two maybe three other susp's in the living room. Susp then went back into the bedroom and again stated, "Where is your money?" Vict again told susp she had no money. Vict. told susp that her husband had all the money but he his working. Susp stated to vict, "I will wait until your husband gets home." Susp then pointed the gun he was carrying at the vict's head and stated, "Give me your money or I will kill you." Vict told the susp, "I have

no money." Susp then continued to go through vict's dresser drawers and closets again continuously stating, "Where is your money?" (Vict stated that susp seemed nervous the entire time), and continuously pointed the gun at vict. Vict described the gun as black semi-automatic. Vict pointed out that the gun resembled a smaller version of the ofcr's duty 9mm.

Vict stated that susp then left the room and went to talk to the other susp's in the living room. Susp then returned to the bedroom and told vict to close her eyes. Susp then pulled out the bedroom window screen and fled to an unknown location. Vict then left the room to call her sister and brother who then notified police.

Vict advised she only observed the susp who pointed the gun at her and only heard the other two suspects in the living room talking. Vict stated the susp who had the gun spoke in broken english with a bad accent and the other two susp's in the living room spoke with gang slang.

My partner and I then searched the area for any evidence and wit's. We located (1) witness who stated:

On 12-12-00 at approx 1830 hrs he had just returned from work and went to park his work truck in his assigned parking spot. Once there a blue vehicle 1985 Dodge Colt License #4KWK507 (see impound report) was parked there with a woman sitting in the passenger seat. Wit stated he just parked his vehicle in front of the car and went into his residence. Approx (15) minutes later a female hispanic described as 5'6/110 approx 25 yrs old with a slender build, dressed in black pants and white blouse knocked on his door. She asked wit if he could move his vehicle so she could move her car out of the parking space. Wit agreed and went downstairs to move his vehicle.

Wit stated that once he moved his vehicle the female had trouble moving her vehicle, the car kept stalling out. Wit approached the vehicle to find out what was going on, she stated, "I can't drive stick shift can you move the car for me?" Wit then jumped into the driver seat and she moved over to the passenger seat. Wit moved the car to the front of the apartment complex and parked it in the street. Female stated to wit not to park the car there but down the street at the "Taco Bell" on Vanowen and Coldwater Canyon approx (1/2) block down. (Wit stated he found that kind of odd but did so.)

Wit then went back home to his vehicle at the residence when he saw Ofcr. Lewis #31575. Wit asked Ofcr. Lewis #31575 what he was doing there. Ofcr. Lewis told wit that a home invasion robbery had just occurred. Wit then notified Ofcr. Lewis of the situation that he had with the woman and the vehicle.

Ofcr's Higuera #32277 and Ofcr. Perez #32302, 15G42, then went code (5) at that location of Vanowen and

Coldwater Canyon and observed the vehicle still parked in the parking lot of the Taco Bell.

Ofcr's Higuera #32277 and Ofcr. Perez #32302 stated that approx 2100 hrs, approx (2) hrs later, deft entered the vehicle parked at "Taco Bell" and left heading westbound on Vanowen. Ofcr's pulled vehicle over at Vanowen and Morse, for 26710 (VC), defective windshield, and conducted a follow-up interview with the deft. Deft wrote out and signed a consent to search the vehicle (see attached). Ofcr's then conducted the search and notified in plain view a loaded handgun (.380 Caliber "Davis" Semi Auto Handgun) in the middle counsel where a pullout radio was supposed to be. Deft-1 was placed into custody pending further investigation. Ofcr's also recovered the vict's black purse taken in the home invasion robbery in the back seat of the vehicle.

Deft stated that on 12-12-00 a female called him and asked Deft-1 if he could pick-up the vehicle parked at "Taco Bell." Female picked up the Deft at the "Tangiers Hotel" on Sepulveda Blvd., Van Nuys, and took Deft over to the vehicle parked at "Taco Bell." Deft-1 was driving the 1985 blue Dodge Colt in an alley south of Vanowen to an unknown location. Uniformed ofcr's stated that once Deft-1 was in custody he stated to ofcr's that he and the unknown female were stopped a while back by LAPD for a traffic violation. Deft-1 showed a citation to uniformed ofcr's and the ofcr wrote down the information of female susp on the back of an FI card.

Ofcr's Lewis #31575 and Ofcr. Jaramillo #35692 then advised vict that another patrol unit had detained a possible suspect. Vict agreed to accompany us for a field show-up. While enroute to the location Ofcr. Lewis #31575 advised vict of the vict's field admonishment per LAPD form 18.30. Once at the location, our vehicle was approx 10' away from the possible susp and vict could not positively identify susp.

Ofcr's Higuera #32277 and Ofcr. Perez #32302 advised that Deft-1 stated that he knew where the female who fled lives and would take them to her. Ofcr's Higuera and Perez then asked Deft-1 where he lived and Deft-1 stated he was staying at the "Tangiers Motel at 7615 Sepulveda Blvd." with his two friends Deft-2 and Deft-3.

Ofcr's then conducted a follow-up to that location and once there Deft-1 gave a "Verbal OK" to enter his room. Upon entering the room Deft-2 stepped outside the room and was detained pending further investigation. Ofcr's asked if any one else was inside the room and Deft-2 stated that there was one more person inside. Ofcr's called the individual out (later ID as Deft-3). He complied and was detained pending further investigation. Once inside the room Ofcr's observed in plain view (3) guns lying on the floor of the room, later found to be (1) BB gun and (2) plastic guns. Also lying on the floor were (3) .45 ACP magazines, (1) containing (3) live rounds.

Ofcr's also observed sitting in the middle of the room an open tool box (see photo's) containing (1) .380 Federal Hydra-Shock live round, the same make and caliber round as the gun removed from the 1985 Dodge Colt. Ofcr's also observed lying on the floor a black gym bag containing various types of watches and jewelry (see property report).

Upon locating Deft's-2 and 3 at the hotel I attempted to contact vict for a possible field show up but was advised that vict was still shaken up and had just fainted. Ofcr's therefore did not pick up the vict for a field show up. Ofcr's were later informed that the vict was admitted to Tarzana Hospital due to the stress of the incident.

Booking

Deft-1 was booked for 211 PC, Robbery, Deft-2 was booked for PC, Robbery, and Deft-3 was booked for 211 PC, Robbery, on the approval of Sgt. Ontiveros #13583, NHWD, W/C

Additional

SID was called to take photos and fingerprint the residence. Responding was unit 2H137 Grote #A9695 to take photo's (CH238716) and Williams #U9549 to conduct fingerprints of the location.

Ofcr. Perez #32302 recovered a white powdery substance resembling powder cocaine inside a white plastic baggie in the Deft-1's left sock upon a pre-booking search at NHWD station. Request additional filing for 11350 his, possession of C/S.

Upon running the 380 Semi-Auto handgun, it returned registered to a Panorama City address. This location is 3-5 apt. complexes south of the location that Deft-1 advised Ofcr's where the female hispanic lived.

SID photo's responded and took photos of crime location as well as the vehicle which was impounded, 1985 Dodge Colt Lic. #4KWK507. (See attached report.)

Deft-2 is currently on parole and Ofcr's placed a 3056 PC hold on him and sent him to Van Nuys Jail.

The manager of the "Tangiers Motel" advised Ofcr's that the room where the Deft's were in was rented to (name withheld) on 12-9-00, address of 15715 Van Nuys Blvd., and a Ford with a license plate of #3MCS624, Ca/Op of A6323462. Upon running a Ca/Op check no Ca/Op exists and upon running a DMV check of the license plate no match was found.

Ofcr's observed that the Deft's-1's Veh was recently painted blue with what appeared to be blue spray paint. Ofcr's recovered a receipt for spray paint from the Home Depot purchased on 12-11-00.

Upon running the 1985 Dodge Colt Lic#4KWK507 the R/O returned to a Kagel Cyn address in FTHL division. Ofcr's conducted a F/U to the location but it was a B/O address.

All of Vict's property was recovered, photographed by SID CH238716 and returned to vict.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

For Your Information is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. We encourage you to submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

Blacks in Blue 2001 Calendar Celebrates the LAPD'S Early African American History

Blacks in Blue is the first annual calendar to celebrate the early chapter of the 115-year legacy of African American Los Angeles Police Department police officers. The calendar was published in December, 2000, by Blue Line Press, Inc. LAPD Sergeant John Thomas, a 16-year department veteran, served as the project's researcher.

Thomas' interest in the LAPD's diaspora began in 1997 when he was assigned to the Office of the Chief of Police. Thomas was charged to find photographs that reflected the Department's ethnically diverse history.

Shortly thereafter, Thomas discovered a 1923 California Eagle newspaper article on Patrolman Charles P. Williams, the first known black LAPD police officer killed in the line of duty. When Thomas learned that Williams had been buried in a pauper's grave, he worked to have the oversight rectified and Williams' legacy and personal sacrifice confirmed in the LAPD's annals. The Department responded by holding an official memorial ceremony attended by Los Angeles dignitaries.

Prior to 1998, Officer Oscar Joel Bryant was believed to be the first black LAPD officer killed in the line of duty (1968).

A more personal hero to Thomas is Jesse Kimbrough. Kimbrough joined the department in 1915 as a reserve officer. He earned his official status in 1916.

A decorated war hero, Kimbrough organized and played on the department's black baseball team, the Lawmen, as their coach and catcher. Throughout the Depression, the popular Lawmen competed against local teams and visiting Negro League Baseball squads in a series of charity ball games. The team's efforts raised over \$10,000 in 1929 alone.

Kimbrough retired from the department in 1939. A prolific writer, he authored two published books—the semi-autobiographical novel, *Defender of the Angels*, which chronicled his career as a police officer, and *Brown Doughboy*, a World War I narrative written from the perspective of a black soldier. *Defender of the Angels* was originally published in 1969 on



Kimbrough's 77th birthday. (Blue Line Press, Inc. will reprint *Defender of the Angels* in February 2001.) Despite limited resources, Thomas, who has been called a "walking encyclopedia" by the Los Angeles Times, was able to gather 100 photographs of black LAPD officers from the Los Angeles Police Historical Society and other private collections. Some of the pictures were dated as far back as 1886. Twenty-four of these photos are featured in the Blacks in Blue calendar.

"What I want people to see is that the history of the Los Angeles Police Department is rich," Thomas says. "It's tied in with the community and it's a part of the fabric that made Los Angeles what it is today."

Blacks in Blue is the first step in acknowledging the Los Angeles Police Department's African American legacy. Future plans include a public exhibition of photographs, a book and a documentary film.

The calendar sells for \$13.95. It may be purchased from the Oscar Joel Bryant Foundation at www.ojbfoundation.org or from Amazon.com at www.amazon.com.

A portion of Blacks in Blue's proceeds benefit the Oscar Joel Bryant Foundation Annual Scholarship Fund and the Los Angeles Police Historical Society.

Oscar Joel Bryant Foundation / 2001 Calendar Los Angeles Police Department: The Early Years—Blacks in Blue

The Los Angeles Police Department's first paid police force was established in 1869. Seventeen years later, **Robert William Stewart** was appointed as the Department's first black Patrolman. **Georgia Ann Robinson** joined Stewart in 1916 when she became the LAPD's first black female Policewoman.

The tradition of blacks serving the City of Los Angeles as police officers has continued for 115 years. *Blacks in Blue* celebrates the Department's early black history. A small sampling of some of the many stories are told through these 24 black and

white photographs and corresponding text. Read about the triumphs and trials of these extraordinary men and women who dedicated their lives to public service.

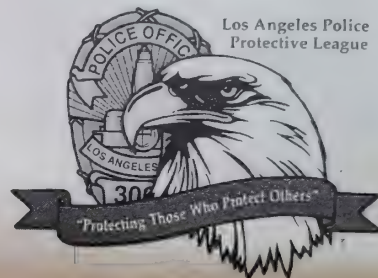
A portion of this calendar's proceeds benefit the *Oscar Joel Bryant Foundation Annual Scholarship Fund* and the *Los Angeles Police Historical Society*.

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U.S. Supreme Court Hears Texas Murder Case— National Police Group Filed Brief in Texas vs. Cobb Urging Court to Reverse Exclusion of Voluntary Confession in Gruesome Murder Case

Washington, D.C.—The U.S. Supreme court will hear today a case in which a state court placed an unreasonable and serious obstacle to police officers who question suspects who confess, even after compliance with Miranda. The National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) and its affiliate, the National Law Enforcement Officers' Rights Center, together with the Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas (CLEAT), filed an *amicus curiae* brief with the U.S. Supreme Court.

The brief urged the court to reverse a Texas state court decision, which suppressed a voluntary and properly obtained statement of a confessed murderer. That court ruled that police should not have questioned the defendant about a double murder, even after a waiver of his Miranda rights, because the defendant had previously been charged with and was represented by counsel on a burglary elsewhere, arising out of the same events. The police who questioned the suspect knew nothing about the burglary charge and his representation by counsel on it. Yet, the Texas court held that all law enforcement officers in Texas are "imputed" (i.e. presumed) to know about the prior charge, an unrealistic expectation. If not reversed, this decision will significantly hamstring effective and good faith police work in solving crimes, because officers cannot know every suspect's prior and pending charges.

Summary of the Facts and Proceedings

In December 1993, Raymond Cobb brutally murdered and secretly buried Margaret Owings after stabbing her during the course of burglarizing her home. Then, when her 2-year old daughter Kori Rae awoke, he buried her alive beside her mother. Cobb was questioned by Walker County police and confessed to the burglary, although he denied any involvement in the disappearance of mother and daughter. Cobb was indicted for burglary, for which counsel was appointed to represent him. The police interrogated Cobb on the disappearance of the mother and child, but he maintained his innocence.

After being released on bail on the burglary charge, with trial delayed indefinitely, Cobb moved to Odessa, Texas, over 500 miles away, to live with his father. Almost two years later, Cobb confessed to his father that he had murdered the mother and child. Cobb's father reported the confession to the Odessa police, who after contacting the Walker County authorities, obtained a warrant and arrested Cobb. After he waived his Miranda rights, Cobb made a statement confessing to the murders. At that time, the Odessa police were

unaware that Cobb had been indicted and had counsel in the burglary case. Cobb was eventually convicted of murder and sentenced to die.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals overturned Cobb's conviction on the ground that his confession should have been suppressed, because it was taken in violation of Cobb's Sixth Amendment right to counsel. The court stated, "Once the right to counsel attaches to [an] offense charged, it also attaches to any other offense that is *very closely related* factually to the offense charged." The court concluded that the double murder was "factually interwoven" with the burglary and thus that Cobb's right to counsel with respect to questioning about the murders had already attached upon the burglary indictment. The court ruled that Cobb's waiver of his rights to counsel before his interview with the Odessa police was automatically invalid because Cobb was presumed to have "asserted his right to counsel [in the murder case] by accepting appointment [of] counsel" on the burglary charge months earlier. The court concluded that, "once the right to counsel has attached and has been invoked under the Sixth Amendment, any subsequent waiver by the defendant during police interrogation is ineffective unless counsel has first given permission for the interrogation."

The Texas appellate court stated that it made no difference that the police in Odessa had no knowledge of the burglary indictment in Walker County and that they had acted in good faith. The court ruled that the trial judge should, "impute the State's knowledge from one state actor to another." The court ignored the legitimate and good faith efforts by the Odessa police.

Summary of NAPO's position

NAPO Executive Director Robert T. Scully stated, "This is an important case for law enforcement officers. Questioning a potential suspect swiftly to follow up on new leads can often be critical for solving a case. That is especially true where, as here, the break in the case comes from a suspect's confession to a third party long after the crime. Following up with a suspect in a frame of mind to confess is often the *only* way to resolve a case, such as this one, that might otherwise remain unsolved forever. The efforts by the Odessa police in securing Cobb's confession after waiver of his Fifth Amendment privilege should be rewarded, not discouraged, and Cobb should be held accountable for these heinous crimes. A rule requires the automatic suppression of a voluntary confession of a murder, because he was previously charged with another crime, will

seriously impede legitimate police efforts to question suspects and will result in fewer crimes being resolved."

Scully continued, "The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals has placed an impossible burden on law enforcement. All law enforcement officers in Texas would be automatically presumed to have knowledge that 1) Cobb had been charged with burglary, 2) the murder was factually related to the burglary, and 3) Cobb had counsel on the burglary charge in Walker County. This means that no Texas officer could have ever questioned Cobb on any aspect of the murders without the presence of counsel. If this decision is not reversed, law enforcement officers will take the risk that each time they question a suspect and obtain a voluntary confession or other incriminating information, the suspect's statement may be thrown out as evidence through no fault of the officers involved—an incredible result!"

Scully continued, "In addition, even if law enforcement officers were aware, by chance, that the suspect had been charged on a related crime elsewhere,

they would have to investigate all of the details of this other crime before questioning the suspect. In essence, they would have to act as lawyers to determine whether the crime they were investigating was 'closely related' to a crime for which the suspect had already been charged, in order to decide if the Sixth Amendment right applied."

Scully concluded, "The result of this expansive and unfounded interpretation of the Sixth Amendment creates unrealistic rules for the law enforcement profession in Texas and other states following this practice. The Texas court basically 'crossed its wires', mixing up Sixth Amendment right-to-counsel-at-time-of-charge case law with Fifth Amendment privilege-against-self-incrimination case law, with serious consequences for public safety. We hope that the U.S. Supreme Court will agree with our position."

FOR A COPY OF THE BRIEF OR FOR INTERVIEWS OF NAPO'S GENERAL COUNSEL, PLEASE CALL JODY COUSER AT 202-842-3550.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

William H. Parker Blue Line Foundation

by Sergeant Steve Williams
& Officer Dennis J. DeNoi

January 5, 2001

The William H. Parker Los Angeles Police Foundation staff and board members have continued to provide support to the hard working men and women of the Los Angeles Police Department through numerous financial grants. This month, a grant was awarded to members of the LAPD Recruitment Team to attend "Recruiting Update 2000 Seminar."

Hopefully, this grant will aid the Department in its quest to recruit qualified men and women to join the finest police department in the United States. Employee Opportunity and Development Division established the "Fall 2000 Women's Workshop" that was successful and provided enhanced training to 200 department members. The Foundation funded an honorarium for renowned keynote speaker, Jewel Diamond Taylor, to address the workshop. Members from the Threat Management Unit were provided a grant to attend "Violence

Risk and Threat Management" course Detectives from the DHD Gun Detail attended the "Glock Armorer School."

On December 7, 2000, the Parker Foundation was presented a plaque by the staff of the LAPD's West Point Leadership Course, for the Foundation's continued support for their program. Board members Ken Esteves and Sheila Morris received the plaque on behalf of the Foundation and were presented with individual recognition certificates for their dedication to the LAPD. The presentation was held during a West Point Graduation at the Academy. For the first time in the history of the U.S. Army West Point Academy sent a representative, Lieutenant Colonel Dardis, to be the guest speaker at the graduation ceremony. Lieutenant Colonel Dardis was quite impressed by the course and the professionalism of the Los Angeles Police Department. Colonel Dardis was given the royal treatment by the Parker Foundation staff with a personalized tour of the Department, topped off by ride alongs with Wilshire and Air Support Divisions.

The Parker Foundation ended the year with a holiday party held at the Academy Lounge. A Las Vegas show band and magician entertained Department and business leaders and supporters of the Foundation. Chief Parks was photographed along with other party guests sitting in Chief William H. Parker's favorite chair that was recently acquired as a historical artifact and restored to its original condition.

In closing, we leave you with a quote from a speech titled "The California Crime Rise" by Chief William H. Parker of the Police Officer's Association of California. During the past year, the City of Los Angeles has seen an increase in major crimes. Chief Dardis stated in response to the

by Chief William H. Parker of the Police Officer's Association of California.

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Officer Dennis DeNoi takes a brief break from his duties while cruising Wilshire Division with Colonel Gregory Dardis. They enjoyed "Life on the Beat" as they cruised the streets of Los Angeles (Dec 2000).



We are dedicated to the professional advancement of the Los Angeles Police Department by providing enhanced opportunities for training, education and equipment to the proud men and women of the LAPD.

The William H. Parker Foundation is located at the Police Academy, 1880 N. Academy Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: (213) 847-1226

www.lapdfoundation.com
Sgt. Steve Williams, Ofc. Dennis DeNoi, Sec. Regina Menez



William H. Parker
Chief of Police (1950-1966)

Los Angeles Police Protective League Announces

18th Annual Scholarship Awards Program

The Los Angeles Police Protective League is proud to announce the Eighteenth Annual Scholarship Awards Program which is open to college-bound dependents of LAPPL members, both active and retired, who have held continuous membership in the League for more than one year prior to the dependent's application. Nearly \$10,000 in scholarships will be awarded. To qualify:

- ☐ An applicant must be a 2001 high school graduate with a "C" average or better.
- ☐ The candidate will be judged on his/her scholastic record and extracurricular activities. If qualified to compete, the candidate will be invited to the essay portion of the Scholarship Awards Program.
- ☐ The essay will be administered on Saturday, March 31, 2001, at the Los Angeles Police Academy. **The essay portion will be administered on one day, at one time, and at one location. Applicants must appear in person on that date and time. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.**

The scholarship finalists will be selected by the League Scholarship Committee and the awards will be presented in June of 2001.

This is a unique opportunity for the dependents of LAPPL members to earn scholarship assistance for the 2001 Fall college semester. The awards are based on the ability to analyze the essay question and then respond to it in writing.

If you would like to be considered, please complete the form below and mail to the League office, **1308 West Eighth Street, Fourth Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017**. You may also pick up an application at the League office or request an application by telephone at **213-251-4599** or send E-mail to **lisa@lappl.org**.

Very truly yours,
Scholarship Committee 2001

Request for Scholarship Application

Scholarship applications must be returned to the League no later than March 1, 2001. Applications received after that date will be returned.

Applicant's Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: () _____

Name and Assignment of League member who qualifies you as a scholarship applicant: _____

Serial No.: _____

Work Telephone No.: _____

Retired: _____ Active: _____

Your Relationship to the League member who qualifies you as a scholarship applicant: _____

NOTE: This is not a scholarship application. It is a request form only.

Applications must be obtained from the League Office at
308 W. 8th Street, Fourth Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017

Applications must be received at the League office
by Friday, March 1, 2001

Mr. Miller... You Have Cancer...

No! That's Impossible! I'm too young! You've made a mistake... I'm just here to have my appendix removed.

The four grim-faced doctors standing before me made it clear that there was no mistake. I had a deadly form of lymphoma and we, as a family, had to deal with it. In March 1996 our lives changed forever.

For the next year I had the standard chemotherapy treatment prescribed for this disease. In February 1997, those same grim-faced doctors stood before me and said: "Mr. Miller... you still have cancer and you will die without a bone marrow transplant." I had two choices. Refuse the transplant and die... have the transplant and maybe live for a few more years. I had the transplant at the "City of Hope" and returned to work in April 1998.

As a detective with the LAPD I have always enjoyed the pursuit of information. I decided to research Lymphoma. I found out that this particular cancer often has an occupational origin. It is becoming common in adults exposed to certain chemicals. The chemical often associated with lymphoma and other occupational diseases is benzene.

For those Police Officers who were on the job during the 1980's, you will remember the serious PCP problem that we had during those years. One of the main ingredients in PCP is benzene. Pure phenacyclidine (PCP) is a crystal product. The chemical crystallization process distills out the majority of the benzene. During the 1980's, illegal street PCP was a liquid mixture. It was a highly contaminated substance and had various levels of benzene and other dangerous chemicals remaining in it. The various street assignments that I worked during those years put me in contact with a large amount of liquid PCP.

"The purity of phenacyclidine sold as angel dust" (Purified Crystal) is high (80%-100%) compared with the surreptitious presence of phenacyclidine (range 10%-30%)." Source: Ellenhorn, M.J. and D.G. Barceloux. Medical Toxicology - Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Poisoning. 1998. (www.sis.nlm.nih.gov)

"The drug is so potent that intoxication has resulted from 'passive smoking' the inhalation of fumes from illicit laboratories and the handling of confiscated material. /Phenacyclidine hydrochloride/" (Gosselin, R.E., R.P. Smith, H.C. Hodge. Clinical Toxicology of Commercial Products. 1984 (www.sis.nlm.nih.gov/)

"Positive blood phenacyclidine levels were reported in law enforcement officers who handled phenacyclidine confiscated during drug raids." (Hardman, J.G., L.E. Limbird, P.B. Molinoff, R.W. Ruddon. The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics. 1996 (www.sis.nlm.nih.gov/)

"The US government added phenacyclidine to the list of... controlled substances in 1978. Legal manufacture stopped April 1979, and the federal government is now the only legitimate source of phenacyclidine in the United States. Despite well-publicized adverse reactions, PCP remains a popular street drug in certain areas of the US. In Los Angeles, PCP is the third most frequently abused street drug, after alcohol and marijuana." (Medical Toxicology—Diagnosis and treatment of Human Poisoning. 1988)

The following five statements about PCP and Benzene are not my opinion or a matter of scientific conjecture... they are easily verified through research.

- 1. Clinical Studies have shown that PCP causes tissue damage. (Toxline internet search)
- 2. Clinical Studies have shown that PCP is absorbed into the bodies of Police Officers handling it. (Toxline internet search)
- 3. Benzene is a precursor in illicit liquid PCP. (LAPD Scientific Investigation Division)
- 4. Inhalation of Benzene has been linked to Lymphoma (Toxline internet search)
- 5. Benzene is a potent carcinogenic agent... causing leukemia, malignant lymphoma, multiple myeloma and bone marrow depression (Toxline internet search)

During the 1980's, the LAPD handling procedures did not acknowledge this benzene hazard and unfortunately many of us were exposed to dangerous levels of highly carcinogenic PCP. (See 1980's LAPD Manuals. PCP Procedures) The fact that benzene is a PCP precursor was well documented in the 1980's. Benzene carcinogenic potential was also well known. Our exposures occurred by inhalation & absorption through the skin. (LAPD... Scientific Investigation Division)

A 1996 LAPD training bulletin attempted to remedy these handling procedures but out exposure levels can never be reversed. The damage has been done.

Partial Text of the 1996 Training Bulletin: "It has been determined that PCP may remain in the body's system for long periods of time, perhaps years, and may cause health problems long after contamination occurred."

"Department personnel can become contaminated from handling small quantities of PCP that are seized outside of a laboratory environment, such as an arrest of a suspect in possession of PCP. Because of its unusually hazardous nature, special handling of PCP is required." (Department Emphasis)

"Contamination can also result from contact with small quantities of PCP that are seized outside of a laboratory. Officers should handle PCP and all chemicals with care to ensure the safety of themselves and others. Remember, chemical contamination can lead to SERIOUS INJURIES and even DEATH." (Department Emphasis) (LAPD Training Bulletin Volume XXVIII, Issue 2. . . Phenacyclidine (PCP)... January 1996)

The reason that I have written this article is that occupational cancers among LAPD employees are more common than I previously knew. Exposure to Benzene related substances have been implicated in Police Officer & Firefighter occupational cancers. During the 1980s we were trained that PCP was dangerous because it caused bizarre behavioral reactions should one become intoxicated. The long-term health dangers of the precursor chemicals should have been emphasized just as strongly.

Those of us who dealt with PCP during the 1980s are now paying the price for that oversight.

I am sorry to be the bearer of such disturbing news, but if you have reason to believe that you may have been exposed to this carcinogen, you may wish to consult your doctor for guidance. Benzene (Liquid PCP) is extremely carcinogenic... if you still have any doubts... please read these two quotes:

"The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) holds the position that carcinogenic agents that do not possess any data to support safety levels in humans do not comply with threshold and therefore no safe level of exposure exists. One of the most typical is benzene. The most recent position paper of the Collegium Ramazzini, which is a highly prestigious occupational medicine and toxicology scientific association, clearly indicated that, 'there are no safe levels of exposures to benzene or asbestos'" (www.expertnet-work.com)

"Benzene is classified as a 'known' human carcinogen under the Risk Assessment Guidelines of 1986. Under the proposed revised Carcinogen Risk Assessment Guidelines (USEPA, 1996) benzene is characterized as a known human carcinogen for all routes of exposure based upon convincing human evidence as well as supporting evidence from animal studies. Epidemiologic studies and case studies provide clear evidence of a causal association between exposure to benzene and acute nonlymphocytic leukemia and also suggest evidence for chronic nonlymphocytic leukemia and chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Other neoplastic conditions that are associated with an increased risk in humans are hematologic neoplasms, blood disorders such as preleukemia and aplastic anemia, Hodgkin's Lymphoma, and myelodysplastic syndrome." (American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists 1995) (www.sis.nlm.nih.gov)

Thank you for listening. . . Detective Craig Miller LAPD Narcotics Division

ITALIAN AMERICAN POLICE OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION

The Los Angeles Police Department's Italian American Police Officer's Association is having it's annual membership meeting. New and current members are encouraged to attend. Please join in celebrating our heritage and culture.

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT PALERMO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT 1858 N. Vermont Avenue on MARCH 14, 2001 at 1700 Hours.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Please Call or E-mail Det. Nina Serna at (310) 575-8441 or Fred Tredy at (213) 485-4320.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Major Supreme Court Ruling on Assault Weapons

by Randy Rossi

The author of this article is the California Department of Justice Firearms Division Director Randy Rossi. In California Department of Justice Firearms Division's oversight responsibilities include firearm dealers, firearm purchasers, firearm testing laboratories, gun show promoters, dangerous weapons and explosive dealers, safety device testing, and the implementation of the new assault weapon law. Since November, 1999, this Division provided firearms training at more than 30 locations around the state.

As you well know, there have been numerous changes in the law relating to firearms. Recently, there was a very significant Supreme Court decision impacting the Assault Weapon Control Act (AWCA), the public, and law enforcement. The ramifications of the Supreme Court decision are dramatic.

Effective August 16, 2000, copycat/clone "series" AK and AR-15 assault weapons cannot be offered for sale, sold, manufactured, or imported into California. Additionally, such assault weapons possessed prior to August 16, 2000, must be registered on or before January 23, 2001, regardless of whether or not they have Senate Bill 23 (Penal Code section 12276.1) characteristics.

Background

On June 29, 2000, the California Supreme Court issued the long-awaited decision in *Kasler v. Lockyer*, a case which addresses the 1989 Roberti-Roos AWCA. The California Supreme Court reversed an earlier court of appeal decision, which had determined there were constitutional infirmities in the AWCA. In *Kasler*, the California Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the AWCA in its entirety.

An integral part of the AWCA is the provision in Penal Code section 12276, which states that all AK series and AR-15 series weapons are controlled assault weapons even if they are "other models that are only variations, with minor differences, regardless of manufacturer." There are many copycat/clone "series" AK and AR-15 assault weapons.

During the pendency of the litigation, Attorney General Daniel Lungren, and later Attorney General Bill Lockyer, did not identify the "series" weapons listed in the separate provisions of Penal Code section 12276, subdivisions (e) and (f). Series weapons continued to be manufactured, imported into California, sold, purchased and possessed within California without regard to Penal Code section 12276, subdivisions (e) and (f). The

Kasler decision has affirmed the Attorney General's authority to identify the "series" AK and AR-15 assault weapons pursuant to Penal Code section 12276 (e) and (f). As such, the Department has identified and listed these weapons.

In 1999 the Legislature expanded the assault weapons definition by adding Penal Code section 12276.1, which identifies assault weapons by characteristics.

Recent Development

On August 16, 2000, the Supreme Court decision in *Kasler v. Lockyer* became final as a result of the Supreme Court's denial for rehearing. As of that date (August 16, 2000), copycat/clone "series" AK and AR-15 weapons can no longer be manufactured within this state, imported into this state, offered for sale or sold within California and must be registered by January 23, 2001.

Individual Owner Obligations

In order to comply with the law, an individual who lawfully acquired an AK or AR-15 "series" assault weapons on or before August 16, 2000 (starting the DROS process by August 16, 2000, through a firearms dealer licensed pursuant to Penal Code section 12071) must do one of the following on or before January 23, 2001:

Register the weapon with the Department of Justice;

Render the weapon permanently inoperable;

Sell the weapon to a licensed assault weapons dealer;

Remove the weapon from this state;

Relinquish the weapon to law enforcement.

Efforts in Notifying Impacted Parties

With the recent changes in the law controlling assault weapons, our efforts in notifying impacted parties are intensive. In addition to providing every firearms dealer and each law enforcement agency with Assault Weapon Identification Guides, assault weapon registration cards, and posters and flyers concerning the changes in the law, we produced public service announcements in both English and Spanish, which began airing on the radio and television late last spring and continued through December of last year. Also, we placed notices in the major newspapers across the state, established an assault weapons toll free information line, and developed an assault weapons Web site so that the public can obtain information on these changes in the law. Additionally, we have written articles in magazines concerning these changes in the law and held public

Mystery Cop Photo



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meetings with the National Rifle Association, the California Rifle and Pistol Association, and other gun enthusiasts to inform the public of the changes in the law. To ensure that dealers have the most accurate and up-to-date information concerning these laws, we also held training sessions across the state with the firearms dealers and provided them with an assault weapons identification guide that informs the dealers and public on these changes in the law. These guides were also made available to the public and are available through our Web site and are updated as needed.

Finally, we are making every effort to ensure that law enforcement fully understands these changes in the law. We held fifteen law enforcement training sessions across the state in November and December alone to convey the critical information concerning assault weapons laws and assault weapons registration.

Law Enforcement Impact

It would be a violation of Penal Code section 12280 for any person within this state to manufacture, import, distribute, keep for sale, offer for sale, give, or lend any assault weapon, except as provided in the exceptions found in Penal Code section 12280. It is important to understand that peace officers are generally not exempted from this law and must register personally owned weapons. The peace officer exceptions are found under Penal Code section 12280 (f) and (g) which are generally interpreted to mean specified agencies may purchase assault weapons but individual peace officers may not. Officers who lawfully purchased the weapons prior to the restrictions must comply with the assault weapon registration requirements. Due to confusion over this area of law, we are working with PORAC and others to determine if we can provide additional peace officer relief in the law through a legislative remedy.

In light of the recent Supreme Court determination that the Assault Weapon

Control Act is constitutional, the Department of Justice as well as other law enforcement agencies are obligated to identify and enforce the state law with respect to "series" AK and AR-15 copycat/clone assault weapons. To assist the public in identifying such weapons, the Department of Justice identified and listed weapons that determine to meet the "series" weapon definition. That listing and accompanying information can be found on our Web site (see below) and in the Assault Weapon Identification Guide, copies of which were provided to your agency in November.

We understand that with recent changes in the law resulting from legislation and Supreme Court decisions, laws governing firearms in California are complicated. Should you or your agency need additional training, you may contact your POST area consultant so that as training needs are identified the Department of Justice, working in conjunction with POST, can provide such training. Also we have a standing offer to provide your agency with hands-on training should it be necessary.

Additionally, in an effort to assist you in identifying Roberti-Roos and "series" AK and AR-15 assault weapons (Penal Code section 12276), and Senate Bill 23 characteristics weapons (Penal Code section 12276.1), the Department of Justice has and will continue to make available copies of the Assault Weapons Identification Guide to assist you in your training efforts. If you have questions, we have developed responses for frequently asked questions that are available via the Firearms Division's Web site at <http://caag.state.ca.us/firearms/>. For more information on Senate Bill 23, you may visit the <http://www.regagun.org/> Web site or call the toll-free information line at 877-734-2486.

Finally, feel free to contact me directly regarding any firearm-related issue at (916) 263-6275.



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A Bad Day for Law Enforcement

by Roy Burns
ALADS President

Each month as I sit to write an article I try to find something of interest to you. This month, one glaring issue dominates my search for a topic: The Rampart Trial. This event, and the conviction of three outstanding officers, establishes a new low for law enforcement and our criminal justice system.

Few things in this world would surprise me or disgust me to the point of anger. This trial does. Law Enforcement suffered a severe blow last month with the conviction of Sgt. Ortiz, Sgt. Liddy and Officer Buchanan. As you may recall this particular trial emanated from information supplied by Internal Affairs by discredited EX-officer Perez.

From a tactical standpoint we have to admire the successful efforts of our enemies. Organizations, like the ACLU, routinely attack our ability to provide effective protection for the good citizens of our communities. They first challenge our hiring practices winning decisions that dilute the quality of personnel we hire. Then, after reducing standards we are forced to hire individuals of questionable background and ability. Then these people commit crimes providing ammunition for the ACLU to attack us again, brilliant!

In addition, individuals we are forced to hire with gang ties, now through lies, bring down honest and dedicated police officers. Again, I say BRILLIANT! These practices, which continue to cause a severe deterioration in our ability to enforce the law, are an abomination of justice that should shock the conscience of every respectable law abiding citizen.

The trial of these LAPD officers was an event that matched the integrity of hard working professional police officers against the lies of common street thugs. In this drama, the twisted words of social deviants were accepted as truth. Truth — words that gang members have long forgotten if ever learned. Truth — words these officers live and die for. Our officers spoke the truth only to be ignored by a jury and used as a vehicle used for their incarceration.

Each and every one of us should be concerned about the direction of our legal system. A system that now punishes the good and rewards the bad. In this

trial no evidence supported the allegations of misconduct or criminal violations. The officers each took the stand and provided the jury with a detailed explanation of the events. But, in the end, a tainted jury convicted these noble warriors and sacrificed them to the demons of political correctness.

Another troubling element of this trial was the aggressive posture of the District Attorney's Office. Ex-DA Gil Garcetti and his disciples pursued this case with a sick sense of misplaced passion. Then after the convictions Garcetti stood in front of the cameras and gloated about the victory his office has secured. If only his approach to other trials had the same resolve, people like O.J. might be where he belongs. This could clearly be the message voters of LA were sending to Gil when they voted for Steve Cooley.

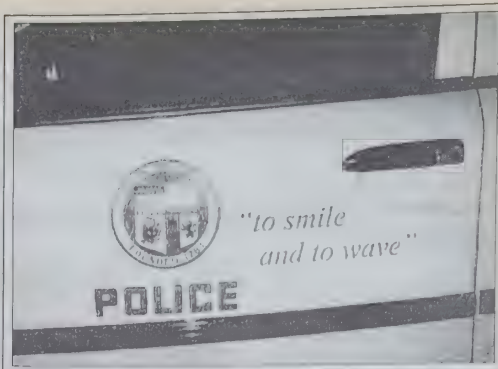
What can we do to improve the legal system? First, tell our family members and friends to be part of the jury pool. We need to have good decent people listening and deciding on these important trials. Second, get involved with ALADS to oppose this type of witch hunting and legal system abuse. Third, get involved with your local community affairs.

After witnessing this travesty of justice, I am reminded of an old saying. To paraphrase, "If a society makes war with its police it had better be prepared to make friends with its enemies." Should we continue down this dark and vile path, then I, for one, fear for society and its future.

Respectfully,
Roy Burns

P.S. Although information was introduced after the trial that addresses the severe possibility that a particular juror was predisposed in thought prior to the introduction of any evidence, the basic concern still exists. The credibility of an officer was outweighed by the lack of credibility of the criminals that were arrested or who testified. At this printing a decision has not been rendered regarding the juror's inappropriate behavior. The officers have our prayers that they receive what a fair trial.

(Reprinted from ALADS Dispatch, December 2000)



THE A&E COP A PLEA CONTEST

Ever pull over a speeding driver and have him tell you he was rushing home to catch his favorite show? We're sure you've heard a million excuses—now it's your chance to tell us your best!

Help A&E celebrate the premiere of *100 Centre Street*, a gritty new drama series about the New York City night court system, by telling us the most outrageous excuse you've ever heard. Enter the **A&E COP A PLEA CONTEST** and you could win!

Grand Prize (1) — a trip for two to the set of *100 Centre Street* or another A&E Production, including roundtrip airfare, hotel accommodations, a visit to the set and the opportunity for the winner to be an extra!
First Prize (10) — *100 Centre Street* collectable briefcase

Enter now! There's no excuse not to. Just tell us in 250 words or less your favorite excuse you've received in the line of duty, then submit your entry with your name, address, phone number, precinct number and address, cable operator, and email address to: **THE A&E COP A PLEA CONTEST**, PO Box 4877, Chestertown, MD 21690.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Physical Lag Times and Their Impact on the Use of Deadly Force

Published: "The Tactical Edge Magazine," Spring, 1995
by Michael R. Hillmann

Introduction

Routinely, law enforcement supervisors, administrators, use of force review boards and civilian jurors are required to evaluate police officers and their application of deadly force. Oftentimes, from an evaluator's perspective, the task of deciding whether an officer acted appropriately or not is a difficult one at best. In all cases, individual state of mind of the officer serves as the foundation for determining "appropriateness of actions," while the law and policy represent key precepts that guide police officers in making their decision to shoot or not shoot. Add to this decision-making criteria, human factors, such as perception time, brain lag and reaction time and the problem of incident evaluation becomes considerably more complex.

It is recognized that the time lags involving perception time, brain lag and reaction time are not an excuse for improper tactics or poor judgment. Police officers must avoid, when possible, placing themselves in positions of jeopardy where they are left with no other alternatives than to shoot. However, in order to balance "no action" with "the duty to perform," one must remember that police officers are trained and practiced to protect the public and are expected to be proactive in pursuit of their duty. Therefore, police officers may find themselves in perilous positions where the decision to utilize "deadly force" is predicated on the circumstances created by the suspect, "it is the suspect who initiates the action and the officer who responds." [4]

It is the intent of this article to focus on the physical time lags involving, perception time, brain lag, and reaction time, their definitions, and how they affect a police officer's decision to utilize deadly force.

Statement of the Problem

Occasionally, conflicts will arise during post incident analysis of incidents involving the use of deadly force, between an officer's recollection, statements and certain physical evidence. Please consider the following situations:

- [1] "The police officer shot an assault with a deadly weapon (ADW) suspect after he made a movement consistent with arming himself. The suspect was determined not to have a gun (after the fact). At the time, however, the officer reasonably believed the suspect was armed with a gun and about to inflict great bodily injury or death upon him."
- [2] "The officer shot an assault with a deadly weapon (ADW) suspect, who moments prior was observed to be armed with a pistol. After discarding the pistol, the suspect ran a few feet from the officer's position toward an unsecured area. At the time the officer believed an additional firearm could have been retrieved and utilized against him or other officers present."
- [3] "The officer stated he discharged his weapon when the suspect's front chest was facing him. However, the evidence indicated the bullet entered the back of suspect's upper body."

Physical Time Lag Studies

Before an analysis of the above situations can take place, certain parameters must be established in order to understand the impact of "physical time lags" affecting police officers. Therefore, for the purpose of discussion only, assume the following facts to be true: (1) Police officers generally attempt to utilize proper tactics, are trained in the law, deadly force policy and are proficient in the use of their firearm; (2) Police officers are lawfully entitled to be where they are under the circumstances; and (3) Police officers are honest and forthright in reporting their observations and actions.

Consider a Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Civil Aeromedical Institute Physiological Operations study conducted regarding collision avoidance: "Inherent in the body are three physical time lags which are critical in high speed flight.

Perception Time (0.1 second): The time required for an impulse to be generated in the eye and transmitted to the brain.

Brain Lag (0.1 second or more): The time required for a decision.

Reaction Time (0.4 to 0.8 second): The time required for an impulse to travel from brain to hand, feet, etc., which triggers some physical reaction to the original eye stimulus. It is not unusual to take up to five seconds before the aircraft begins evasive action (considering collision avoidance)."

There have been other studies regarding physical time lags, specifically relating to driver training. For example, the Los Angeles Police Department's Driver Training Unit, Lesson Plan, [2] has defined "reaction time" as follows:

"The time that elapses between the driver's perception/decision and the time the brakes are applied or the steering wheel turned. The average human reaction time, under these circumstances is 0.75 of a second."

It is significant to note, the conclusions of both independent studies arrived at an average reaction time of between 0.75 to 0.8 of a second.

The Federal Aviation Administration, "High Speed Flight" physical time lag study in particular, is applicable to a law enforcement, use of force setting. For example, a police officer, believing he is confronted with a life-threatening situation, waits to see the suspect's gun before he draws and discharges his service pistol. Under these circumstances, if we apply the above physical time lags we would see that the officer, would probably be shot before he could remove his weapon from his holster. In this specific case, the officer's time for reaction starts after the suspect's weapon is observed. The suspect, already committed to action, is able to draw and shoot before the officer can effectively respond. The officer's reactive measures, e.g., "return fire," could be as much as 1.0 second or more behind the suspect's discharge of two rounds.

Whether a police officer's pistol is holstered or unholstered makes little difference in the above situation. When the officer's pistol is unholstered and in a properly sighted, shooting position, we may see a slight reduction in reaction time. Unfortunately, the best that can be

expected is a "tie" between the officer and the suspect. Considering both the suspect and police officer would be shooting at each other, in all probability both will be shot.

Next, factor into the above situation the following: The officer, (1) must be accurate in target acquisition, (2) is only allowed to continue applying deadly force long enough to stop the threat, (3) must continuously assess the threat, then (4) consciously decide to stop shooting when the threat stops. This entire process involves all of the aforementioned physical time lags of perception time, brain lag and reaction time in order to accomplish. Simply stated, the officer perceives that the threat has been stopped, transmits that observation to the brain, decides to cease shooting, then physically must stop pulling the trigger.

The Law

A police officer is not required by law or policy to wait to see a gun before he discharges his firearm in self-defense or defense of others when he reasonably believes, based upon the circumstances, that he is facing an imminent threat of great bodily injury or death. Whether or not it is determined after the fact that the suspect actually was reaching for a gun, does not invalidate the officer's actions based upon the reasonable belief that he was about to be shot and his personal knowledge of the physical time lags involved.

In recent years, the problems associated with use of force decisions by police officers have not gone unnoticed by the courts. It is acknowledged that police officers are forced to be able to quickly assess situations and make split second decisions involving the use of deadly force as reflected in the U.S. Supreme Court case, *Graham v. Connor* [3]:

"The reasonableness of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene and its calculus must embody an allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second decisions about the amount of force necessary in a particular situation."

Other "Time" Factors

In the course and scope of employment as a police officer, supervisor and manager, the author has had the opportunity to review several hundred officer involved shooting situations for training, officer safety, administrative use of force review boards, courtroom presentations and internal discipline. Following these examinations involving hundreds of investigative hours, personal experience, evaluation of suspects' actions and interviews of "shooting" police officers, it has been the author's observation that:

A suspect armed with a pistol, secreted in his waistband, can draw and fire at least two shots within 1.0 to 1.5 seconds.

Approximately 90% of all officer-involved shooting incidents take place within a three-second time period.

Post Incident Analysis

As mentioned initially, during post incident analysis, oftentimes conflicts arise between an officer's statement and the actual evidence. Please consider the following additional scenarios and explanations.

An officer stated during the officer-involved shooting interview he discharged his firearm in defense of himself when the suspect was facing him. The forensic evidence indicated, however, the bullet track was posterior to anterior. Under the specific circumstances, perception time, brain lag and reaction time of the officer, combined with continued movement of the target (suspect),

may have accounted for the inconsistency between the officer's initial statement and the actual evidence.

A suspect believed to be armed with a handgun is chased by a police officer. The suspect stops, turns to his right and partially faces the officer. The suspect removes what appears to be a handgun from his waist, extends his right arm, while turning to his right. He then makes a movement consistent with assuming a shooting position. The police officer, in pursuit, perceives the threat (0.1 second), stops, assesses that he is in imminent danger of being shot, decides on the appropriate use of force and makes the decision to shoot (0.6 to 0.8 or more seconds). At this point, the suspect is continuing to move, turn, bend, squat, run, climb, throw, stop, etc. In the beat of a heart, the officer makes the decision to shoot, based upon the belief of imminent threat to life. He acquires the target, aligns his front and rear sight and squeezes the trigger twice in rapid succession (1.0 second or more). The suspect falls to the ground shot in the back. Under the circumstances, the officer's perception of the threat, decision to shoot plus actual shooting time, required at least 1.0 second or more to implement. During this period of time the officer observed certain facts and decided on a course of action while the suspect's movement continued. In closer examination, at the time the officer actually commenced shooting, one would probably find that the suspect was turning back toward his left when the bullet impacted. During the post incident officer interview, however, the officer may have recalled he discharged his weapon while the suspect was facing him, when in reality the suspect actually was in the process of turning away from him.

This discrepancy does not mean the officer was being untruthful at the time of the interview. Quite the contrary, the physical time lags affecting the officer's recall of the suspect's position at the moment he decided to shoot, combined with the continuous movement of the suspect after he started shooting, may have accounted for the discrepancy between the officer's belief as to the position of the suspect when he shot and the actual physical evidence. In other words, the officer's reaction lagged behind the actions of the suspect.

It is also recognized that many factors can affect the above examples: tactics, positioning, movement of the officer, accuracy and availability of cover, etc. The point is, the physical time lags (perception time, brain lag and reaction time) combined with the movement of both officer and target must be equally considered prior to formulating opinions of what occurred.

As indicated previously, "crisis decisions," i.e., the use of deadly force, require time (perception, brain lag and reaction time) in order to implement. Just as it takes time for the police officer to perceive, decide and react to an impending threat, it also takes time for the officer to perceive, decide and actually stop his reactive measures. It has been the author's experience to note that criticism has occasionally arisen regarding an "alleged" aggressive number of rounds being fired by a single "shooting officer."

An officer who is shooting to stop the actions of the suspect is required to continuously assess the threat throughout the event, and when, in his opinion the threat is stopped, must "de-escalate" his force. Under these circumstances, the sequence of de-escalation requires time to implement. It is not unusual to find

continued on next page

Physical Lag Time

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that an officer may have attempted to cease fire after two to four shots (depending upon the weapon) but in reality discharged ten shots or more. In the final analysis, this alleged "excessive" number of rounds discharged may not have been excessive at all and may be attributed to the physical time lags involved in the officer's deciding to de-escalate response. In short, the officer may have been unable to immediately discontinue shooting after the initial two to four shots, due to the perception time, brain lag and reaction time required to stop the action.

Physical Time Lags and Distance

A suspect's proximity from a deadly weapon, e.g., arm's reach, and a police officer's distance from a suspect (lunging distance) coupled with the physical time lags required for defensive reaction, can impact the decision to utilize deadly force. Under specific conditions, a police officer may have no other tactical options, e.g., cover, concealment, position, etc., and the threat of serious bodily injury is "reasonably" present. The officer may be forced into a deadly force situation in order to stop the suspect, e.g., movement towards arming himself with a weapon. Officers are not expected to allow suspects to arm themselves and then set about physically engaging and disarming them. The law and use of force policies do not require officers to use the same or lesser amounts of force to overcome a suspect's resistance. Police officers are required to utilize that amount of force which is "reasonable" to overcome resistance. "Grappling" with an armed suspect not only increases the risk to the police officer, but tends to exacerbate and escalate the situation.

Summary of Technical and Tactical Points

The components of physical time lags are:

1. Perception time, 0.1 second; brain lag, 0.1 second or more; reaction time, 0.4 to 0.8 seconds.
2. The sum total of physical time lags (perception time, brain lag and reaction time) is generally between 0.75 and 1.0 second.
3. An armed suspect with a firearm secreted in his waistband can draw and discharge a minimum of two shots within 1.0 to 1.5 seconds.
4. Physical time lags, combined with continuous movement of a suspect, can

account for discrepancies between an officer's account of events and the actual post incident evidence.

5. A police officer's perception time, brain lag and reaction time *all begin* after the suspect's actions are already underway.

6. A police officer's decision to de-escalate the use of deadly force is subject to the same physical time lags as the decision to use deadly force.

7. Proximity of a suspect from a potential weapon (distance of a police officer from the suspect), coupled with physical time lags, can affect the decision to utilize deadly force.

8. The existence of physical time lags, perception time, brain lag and reaction time does not justify the use of poor or inappropriate tactics.

9. Under life-threatening conditions, waiting to see a suspect's gun before a police officer utilizes deadly force can result in injury and/or death to the officer.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the post incident analysis of an officer-involved shooting is complex at best. It is hoped that those who sit in review of a police officer's actions consider the "fast moving circumstances" of the situation, the impact of physical time lags and the officer's overall "state of mind" at the moment he decided to shoot. The issues involving "physical time lags" are present, to some degree, in most officer-involved shooting situations. Additionally, it is this author's opinion that in some cases these time lags have been given little consideration when analyzing the totality of the involved police officer's actions. The most stressful, emotionally impacting, and permanent decision a police officer can ever make is the decision to utilize deadly force.

The best those of us sitting in judgment can do is understand the totality of the circumstances, the concept of physical time lags and their impact on the use of deadly force.

End notes:

- [1] Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Civil Aeronautical Institute Physiological Operations, Physiological Training - High Speed Flight, p. 24, January, 1972.
- [2] Los Angeles Police Department, Training Division, Driver Training Unit, Instructor Lesson Plan, "Vehicle Operation Factors," The Human Factor - Reaction Time, C-1.
- [3] United States Supreme Court, Graham v. Connor (490 U.S. 386-1989).
- [4] Lt. Joe Callanan (LASD retired), The Tactical Edge Magazine, Use of Force After the Rodney King Incident, p. 17, Fall, 1992.

Car Thieves Drink HIV-Infected Blood

Rio de Janeiro (Reuters)—Two members of a gang of Brazilian car thieves may have drunk vials of HIV-infected blood—thinking it was a yogurt drink—found in a stolen car, officials said on Wednesday.

Over the New Year's weekend, six armed bandits overpowered a worker at a medical laboratory in the remote western state of Rondonia and stole his car while he was on the way to the airport to ship blood samples to a distant laboratory, a spokesman for Rondonia's security secretariat told Reuters.

"The blood samples came from AIDS patients and were being shipped for further tests," the spokesman said.

HIV is the virus that causes AIDS. The thieves sped out of town but

made a brief stop at a bar on their way. After a few stiff drinks, two members of the gang uncovered the vials and guzzled them down, mistaking them for drinkable yogurt, the spokesman added.

The two suspects apparently exposed themselves to the deadly, incurable disease.

"I don't know how it happened, but the culprits told reporters here that they were drunk and confused and didn't know what they were doing," the spokesman said. The spokesman noted that the suspects had not told police about drinking the blood.

Police caught four of the alleged robbers some 50 miles (80 km.) down the road after the car broke down.

Poet's Corner

WANTED: Good people for a thankless job.

You start your job, you get to wear only one color, blue.
You work all hours of the day and night, and on your wedding anniversary.
And on Christmas, and on the day your kid is the star of
Miss Hanson's Kindergarten Ballet and Recital.
When there are explosions, gunshots, or screams.
You must run toward them.
You must love children, even those shooting at you.
You have to be able to separate a knife-wielding husband from his palpi-wielding wife.
With no injury to anyone. Then when you arrest one, the other jumps on your back and pummels you.
People curse you, you can't curse back. People hate you, you can't hate back.
You have to be an expert in criminal law, a counselor, a negotiator.
Perfect at crowd control, a therapist, a marksman, a hero, a psychic.
An expert in race relations, be able to deliver a baby, climb a rope.
Scale a wall, have the analytical intelligence of Sherlock Holmes.
The sensitivity of Jesus Christ, and be able to hit like George Foreman.
You can never lose your temper.
If you give a driver a ticket for going 55 mph in a school zone, crowded with kids.
The driver will demand to know why you're not chasing criminals instead of harassing respectable citizens like him.
If you chase a criminal, and he pulls a gun, and you shoot him, it's your fault.
And sometimes you're sued.
If you chase a madman who's driving a car, and there's a crash, it's always your fault.
If you don't believe it's your fault, just listen to the television news.
And read the newspaper reports and they'll set you straight.
If you pursue, wrestle, handcuff, and arrest an armed robber, get bruised and bloodied.
And forget to dot on "I" or cross a "t", a judge, a panel of judges.
Or a whole court of judges will tell you it's your fault and release a dangerous criminal back into the community.
You have to solve major crimes in a day, or you're not doing your job.
If you stop for five minutes for lunch, you're goofing off.
If you accept a cup of coffee, you're on the take.
If you answer a call for help by running to your squad and squealing your tires, you're a cowboy.
If you get to the scene five minutes after the call for help, you're screamed at for not getting there faster.
You have to know more chemicals than a pharmacist.
You have to know more about chemical reactions in the human body than a doctor.
When you break into a drug house, you can never forget to read Miranda Rights to an assorted collection of scoundrels who are racing for the doorway.
Shooting at you, jumping out the windows, punching you in the face, and running to the bathroom to relieve themselves of evidence with the aid of modern plumbing.
If the criminals don't get rid of the evidence with a flush.
A defense attorney will get rid of the evidence through motions that attack you in court.
And of course it's your fault!
In hostage situations, if you shoot the hostage-taker, you're a killer.
Every hour of every day.
Until someone needs you.
Pay isn't great.
Hours are ridiculous. And you probably won't get a summer vacation until you're on the job 20 years.
Now, if you're still interested in becoming a cop,
You can immediately apply because three fine officers unexpectedly lost their jobs recently.
September 7: Milwaukee Police Officer William Robertson, 31, was shot to death by a sniper with a high-powered rifle.
October 28: Glendale Police Officer Ronald E. Hedberry, 42, was shot to death in his squad car after he quickly responded to a call of a bank robbery in progress.
And on Wednesday, Milwaukee Police Officer Michael Nishoff, 27, was killed and two officers were seriously injured in a crash of squad cars, while answering an emergency call.
One more thing we should mention about this job. You're unappreciated. Until you're dead. Then you get a parade.
ALWAYS wear your vest.
ALWAYS watch your back.
ALWAYS check your equipment.
ALWAYS watch their hands.
Never give up.

More For Your Information on next page

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Righteous Reform or Easy Answers?

by Gary Fullerton

The esteemed Professor of Public Interest Law, Erwin Chemerinsky, in a *Daily Journal Forum* article, discussed what he perceived to be the problems and solutions involving the Los Angeles Police Department. Much of what he discussed was found either in his report on behalf of the Los Angeles Police Protective League or in the Report of the Rampart Independent Review Panel. On one hand, Professor Chemerinsky stated that Los Angeles does not know the answers to key questions about the Rampart scandal. How many officers in the Rampart Division CRASH unit participated in illegal activities? How many officers in this unit and the Rampart Division knew of illegal activity and were complicit by their silence? How high within the Department was there some knowledge of illegal activities by Rampart officers? Was there similar illegal activity in other CRASH units, in other specialized units and in other divisions? Most fair-minded persons should agree that these are the *threshold* questions in any analysis of the scandal and what action is necessary to deal with it.

But the professor makes a quantum leap in logic when he fails to wait for the answer to these threshold questions and assumes the worst, just as most of society has done in consideration of this issue. He assumes that there is a vast conspiracy among LAPD officers, especially in the form of the infamous "Code of Silence," and that drastic measures must be instituted to cope with this widespread lawlessness. There is no doubt that the LAPD is in desperate need of widespread change, but it is unclear if it is needed because of officer misconduct or because of a vacuum of leadership. The only thing we know for sure at this point is that Rafael Perez, an admitted perjurer and thief, has made allegations of misconduct against a number of officers. Based on these bald assertions, the management of the LAPD, the City Attorney's Office, and the District Attorney's Office has jumped through hoops to dismiss cases against known gang members and to pay them off handsomely for their trouble. But what is slowly becoming apparent is that most of what Perez has alleged cannot be corroborated and that many of these so-called "victims" of police misconduct were really guilty.

There have been a number of Rampart officers brought before the LAPD's Board of Rights. Only a few scandal-related officers have been terminated thus far. In reviewing one such case, it is clear that it was a travesty of justice and

would not have been tolerated in any courtroom. The officer was charged with several allegations of misconduct, but the Department could only produce Rafael Perez, the complainant, and his girlfriend to support the allegations. The Board heard testimony from Perez that was contradicted by the other witnesses. The other two witnesses also contradicted each other. But instead of seeing these contradictions as harmful to the Department's case, the Board saw the contradictions as *persuasive* of the witnesses' credibility. The Board reasoned that they were telling the truth because it was clear that they hadn't gotten their stories together.

The Board deliberated and could not reach a verdict. The Board then advised the Advocate that they needed more evidence to make a finding. The Advocate then had a Rampart Task Force supervisor testify at the Board. The supervisor testified that he was personally familiar with all of the investigations based on the statements of Perez, and that in his estimation seventy percent of all allegations made by Perez against other officers were in some way corroborated by other evidence, and that the other thirty percent seemed to be just mistakes and bad memory. The defense asked for the documentation and evidence that supported this claim but was denied.

The Board deliberated on the evidence and found the officer guilty. Apparently the Board found the testimony of the Task Force supervisor to be enough to reach a finding of guilt. But the City Attorney's Office intervened and advised the Board that the testimony about Perez' credibility was improper. The Board took the City Attorney's advice and excluded the supervisor's testimony, fearing that it would create reversible error. The Board went back into deliberation with no new evidence before them. Soon, they returned with a verdict of guilty and terminated the officer. The finding of guilt was based on the fact that the witnesses contradicted each other, which was seen in a positive light. In their rationale, the Board failed to mention the fact that they had been unable to reach a guilty verdict before hearing from the Task Force supervisor, they mysteriously were able to find guilt even though no new evidence was part of their deliberation. Of course, the Board recommended termination.

This may be the kind of justice some individuals and groups are looking for in this so-called scandal. And I'm sure that some individuals who previously stated that there was a widespread problem think that this brand of justice is not only acceptable, but also necessary. After all, heads must roll to prove that the problem

is being handled. But fair-minded persons such as Professor Chemerinsky should look beyond the hype and seek real justice.

I recently represented a Rampart CRASH officer who had been ordered to a Board of Rights for alleged serious misconduct. Ironically, in this particular case, Perez actually supported the accused officer and claimed that the officer was not trusted. In the topsy-turvy world of "Let's Make a Deal Justice," Perez meant that he, as a crooked cop, didn't trust this officer because the officer was *not* corrupt. (But, of course, when Perez stated that an officer was clean, this had no bearing on the allegations. Only when Perez identified a so-called crooked cop is it used as support for the allegations.) Several hardcore 18th Street gang members made serious allegations against the officer. The Department and the District Attorney rushed out and obtained Writs of Habeas Corpus to get these gangsters out of jail and to dismiss their guilty pleas. In the meantime, these "citizens" filed Civil Rights lawsuits against the city of Los Angeles. The LAPD conducted an investigation and determined that each of these "citizens" were in fact guilty of the crimes for which they had pleaded guilty and were incarcerated. But this didn't stop the city from settling their lawsuits for approximately \$400,000 each. When the Board of Rights members asked the Internal Affairs investigator if the City Attorney knew that he had determined that the "citizens" were guilty and that the misconduct did not occur, he responded that the City Attorney seemed to have no interest in his findings and it didn't seem to matter if they were guilty or not. The officer was found not guilty after the "victims" made numerous contradictions under oath. One of the gang members testified that the entire incident and all related allegations were fabricated to "get back" at the officers because they were so vigilant in their enforcement of the law. Is it any wonder that officers fear their own leaders more than the criminals they fight every day?

Professor Chemerinsky touches on a number of issues that are important to making the LAPD a better organization. He also is correct when he stated that changes in the entire criminal justice system must take place. But he skirts the true problems with the LAPD. One problem is a lack of leadership and accountability by the command staff of the Department, and in particular, the Chief of Police. The rank-and-file officers of the LAPD traditionally have disdained any type of civilian review. But it has become painfully clear that the Chief of Police does not have the interests of the public or his officers in mind when he makes decisions. His sole purpose is to consolidate his own power base and eliminate all possible competition for the power. His own officers (almost) universally hate him. Most city officials and members of the Police Commission find him to be intransigent and uncooperative unless he gets his own way. This is not a time for denagogy or selfishness. The LAPD needs leadership that will bring us together, not divide us. Chemerinsky is correct when he advocates for stronger civilian control of the LAPD. But someone has to step up to the plate and take

on the Chief, for he will not voluntarily relinquish any power.

It has become almost universally accepted that there is some sort of "Code of Silence" in the LAPD. I am here to tell you it is true. But it isn't the pervasive conspiracy of silence among officers in general. It is a "Code of Silence" being conducted by the LAPD management and some of the investigators assigned to the "Rampart Corruption Task Force." It is becoming increasingly clear that some individuals do not want to find out the truth behind the allegations a self-fulfilling prophecy. It was recently discovered that three former cellmates of Perez were willing to testify about statements made to them by Perez. These individuals alleged that Perez told them that he was targeting innocent officers with false allegations to get back at them for various reasons. Perez allegedly told these individuals that he had to tell these stories to "pay off" his lenient sentence. When it came to the attention of certain task force investigators that these individuals were going to testify against Perez, these investigators allegedly confronted them and attempted to intimidate and coerce them to refuse to testify. Despite this coercion, these individuals did testify, including the fact that the investigators intimidated them. A personnel complaint has been initiated against these investigators and hopefully the truth will prevail. In the meantime, it appears that the "Code of Silence" is alive and well.

Chemerinsky stated that he was troubled by the low level of confidence and trust in the current system among police officers. He was also shocked at the tremendously low morale of the rank-and-file officers. Is it any wonder that these are true when at his first Police Commission Board meeting Chief Parks told the Board and the 500 officers in attendance, "Officer morale is not our problem." If officer morale isn't his problem, then whose problem is it? Isn't it his job to motivate his workers? Isn't it his job to get the best bang for the buck? Do you think that such an attitude will serve the public's interest in effective law enforcement? Is it any wonder that it is virtually impossible to find qualified entry-level employees?

The problems of the LAPD are not insurmountable. First, we must not prejudge the so-called Rampart scandal. We all want to be rid of corrupt or bad cops. Hopefully, justice will take its course. But we want to retain good cops as well. The word of Rafael Perez should not be enough, by itself, to create such frenzy. The real scandal within the LAPD is the utter lack of leadership by its command staff and the arrogance and intransigence of the Chief of Police. The intervention of the federal government should be a wake-up call to everyone that the management of the LAPD has been asleep at the wheel. As Chemerinsky stated, the vast majority of LAPD officers are committed to serving their community as best as possible. Officers are summarily terminated if they perform poorly. Why not the Chief and his cronies?

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Commander Martin Chalupa, 381

Meeting: 3rd Tuesday,
6:30pm - Panorama City
Post #817
13553 Reedley Avenue
Panorama City, CA 91402
(818) 781-2261

Adjutant Frank Ortiz
160 N. Glendora Avenue
Covina, CA 91724
Hm: (626) 331-4271



Welcome Recruit Class 12-00

On December 18, 2000, J. J. Leonard and Marty Chalupa welcomed the 12-00 LAPD recruit class. The thirteen with prior military service joined Police Post #381. Congratulations and welcome to the new members: Miguel Barajas (USA), Iliia Botvinnik (USMC), Robert Bradley (USAF/USAR), Alejandro Diaz (USAF), Juan Garcia (USMC), Winston Lee (USMC), Adam Matkovsky (USMC), Daniel Meneses (USA), James Nichols (USAF), Patrick Scannell (USN), Michael Stewart (USA), Salvador Venegas-Acosta (USMC), Joseph Wursthorn (USMC).

West Los Angeles Holiday Party

District 17 of the American Legion hosts a yearly holiday party for hospitalized veterans. I would like to acknowledge the members of Police Post for their caring and help in putting on another happy and memorable holiday program. Thanks to Sheryl & Woody Baca, Frank Flores, Mark Gerin, Arline & Charlie Meter, and Hal Yarnell.

The following is a message from the 17th district:

On behalf of the Seventeenth District, my co-chairman, Mark Gerin, and myself, I would like to thank the Legionnaires that once again made the West Los Angeles Veterans Holiday Party a great success.

Without Veterans, this country and its freedoms would have been lost. Without Legionnaires, Veterans would have been forgotten. Watching these once lean, mean, fighting machines, these freedom fighters roll into the day room in their wheelchairs, gave me a vision of the

future and I asked myself, "Who will be there when I'm confined to a nursing home?" I quickly raised a prayer that it would be a Legionnaire.

With the aid (financially and morally) from many wonderful community supporters, the 17th District Legionnaires served "Krispy Kreme" donuts, "Western Bagels," cookies, punch and coffee to all of the Veterans, not only in the day room but also to those confined to their hospital beds. The oldest Veteran was Lewis Lee, 108 years old. He was presented with a gold watch. With the help of Recreational Therapists Levellyn Ross and Sheila Hingles, the 17th District Legionnaires joined the disabled Veterans in playing wild games of Bingo. A good time was had by all.

Thomas W. Walsh, 1st Vice Commander for the Seventeenth District.

Acknowledgements to the LAPD Motorcycle Drill Team

On February 2, 2000, at Patriotic Hall, the "Law and Order Commission" of the "Los Angeles County Council" will recognize the National Champion Los Angeles Police Motorcycle Drill Team.

The drill team is a positive image for the police department and does an outstanding job at public relations. Every motorcycle flies two flags, the American flag and the American Legion flag. Thanks to the fine officers in the drill team who have supported and continue to support the American Legion. We salute you.

Important Words From Famous People

"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference."
—Robert Frost

"Right now, at the brink of a new century, everything is coming together. We must harness all our energy to bring our vision to the world."
—James H. Whittem, Ph.D.

"All work is as seed sown; it grows and spreads, and sows itself anew."
—Thomas Carlyle

"Why stay on the earth except to grow?"
—Robert Browning

"Come forth into the light of things, let nature be your teacher."
—William Wordsworth

"For I dipped into the future, far as human eye could see, saw the vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be."
—Alfred Lord Tennyson

Committee Appointments

Police Post #381 is in the 17th District. Each district appoints one representative for each of the department committees. These members are responsible for the operations and running the various committees. They meet twice a year at a state meeting, as well as monthly meetings in the local district.

The following are the members of Police Post that have been appointed to committee assignments: **Marty Schloker** - Aerospace; **Ray Gendreau** - Amateur Radio; **Frank Ortiz** - Convention City; **Charlie Meter** - Counter Subversive; **Michael Regan** - Disaster & Emergency Services; **Hal Yarnell** - Finance; **Gail Tam** - Law and Order; **Woody Baca** - Public Relations; and **George Aguilar** - Scouting.

Nine of the sixteen appointees are from Police Post. Congratulations, gentlemen, and keep up the good work.

American Legion Online

For information on the American Legion, please visit www.legion.org. There is also a Directory of Veterans Service Organizations at www.va.gov/vso.

The Next Meeting of Police Post #381

Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month. February 14th is Valentine's Day. Our February meeting on 2/20/01 is in honor of our wives and sweethearts. Hopefully they are one and the same person. Cocktails are at 6:00 p.m., and dinner at 7:00. There is a \$5.00 donation for dinner—guests are gratis. Location the Panorama Post, at 13553 Reedley Street, Panorama City.

For information on the meeting, please call Comm. George Aguilar at (661) 250-9366, or Adjutant Frank Ortiz at (626) 331-4271.



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IMPROVING PROFESSIONALISM: THROUGH TRAINING AND EDUCATION

P.O.S.T. Training Update

On January 15, 2001, Training Division will begin the classes for the POST Bonus for July 2001, and training should conclude on April 17, 2001.

This session will qualify officers for the 3% percent pay raise as negotiated in our recent contract.

Officers will still have to possess either an Intermediate or Advanced POST Certificate to obtain this POST incentive money.

The following is an upcoming schedule for this POST training

POST TRAINING Bureaus by Training Dates

DEPLOYMENT PERIOD NO. 1

Feb 5/Feb 6	Community Affairs Grp	COP
Feb 5/Feb 6	Dept Commander	COP
Feb 5/Feb 6	Office of COP	COP
Feb 5/Feb 6	Special Assistant	COP
Feb 5/Feb 6	Administration Group	COS
Feb 5/Feb 6	Governmental Liaison	COS
Feb 5/Feb 6	Internal Affairs Div	COS
Feb 5/Feb 6	Internal Affairs Group	COS
Feb 5/Feb 6	Management Service Div	COS
Feb 5/Feb 6	Ombuds Office	COS
Feb 5/Feb 6	Facilities Mgmt Div	F&SB
Feb 5/Feb 6	Fiscal & Support Bur	F&SB
Feb 5/Feb 6	Fiscal Operations Div	F&SB
Feb 5/Feb 6	Jail Div	F&SB
Feb 5/Feb 6	Motor Transport Div	F&SB
Feb 5/Feb 6	Property Div	F&SB
Feb 5/Feb 6	Records & Information Div	F&SB
Feb 5/Feb 6	Scientific Investigation Div	F&SB
Feb 5/Feb 6	Support Services Div	F&SB
Feb 5/Feb 6	Communications Div	ICSB
Feb 5/Feb 6	ECCCS	ICSB
Feb 5/Feb 6	Info & Comm Service Bur	ICSB
Feb 5/Feb 6	Information Tech Div	ICSB
Feb 5/Feb 6	Police Commission Staff	PC
Feb 7, Feb 8	Rampart Div	OCB

Feb 26/Feb 27	Detective Support Div	OHB
Feb 26/Feb 27	Detective Support Grp	OHB
Feb 26/Feb 27	Fiscal Crimes Div	OHB
Feb 26/Feb 27	Ops - Headquarters Bur	OHB
Feb 28/Mar 1	Hollenbeck Div	OCB
Mar 5/Mar 6	77th Div	OSB
Mar 7/Mar 8	West Los Angeles Div	OWB

DEPLOYMENT PERIOD NO. 3

Mar 12/Mar 13	North Hollywood Div	OWB
Mar 14/Mar 15	Anti-Terrorist Div	OHB
Mar 14/Mar 15	Criminal Intelligence Grp	OHB
Mar 14/Mar 15	DARE Div	OHB
Mar 14/Mar 15	Juvenile Services Grp	OHB
Mar 14/Mar 15	Juvenile Div	OHB
Mar 14/Mar 15	Organized Crime & Vice Div	OHB
Mar 14/Mar 15	Robbery-Homicide Div	OHB
Mar 19/Mar 20	Northeast Div	OCB
Mar 21/Mar 22	Southeast Div	OSB
Mar 26/Mar 27	Pacific Div LAX	OWB
Mar 28/Mar 29	Foothill Div	OWB
Apr 2/Apr 3	Field Enforcement Div	OHB
Apr 2/Apr 3	Major Violators Div	OHB
Apr 2/Apr 3	Narcotics Div	OHB
Apr 4/Apr 5	Metropolitan Div	OHB
Apr 4/Apr 5	Uniform Service Div	OHB
Apr 4/Apr 5	Uniform Service Grp	OHB

DEPLOYMENT PERIOD NO. 4

Apr 9/Apr 10	Newton Div	OCB
Apr 11/Apr 12	Devonshire Div	OWB
Apr 16/Apr 17	Air Support Div	OHB
Apr 16/Apr 17	Transit Bus	OHB
Apr 16/Apr 17	Transit Grp	OHB
Apr 16/Apr 17	Transit Rail	OHB

DEPLOYMENT PERIOD NO. 2

Feb 12/ Feb 13	Harbor Div	OSB
Feb 14/Feb 15	Wilshire Div	OWB
Feb 19/Feb 20	West Valley Div	OWB
Feb 21/Feb 22	Ops - Valley Bur	OWB
Feb 21/Feb 22	Valley Traffic Div	OWB
Feb 21/Feb 22	Ops - West Bur	OWB
Feb 21/Feb 22	West Traffic Div	OWB
Feb 26/Feb 27	Burglary - Auto Div	OHB
Feb 26/Feb 27	Detective Headquarters Div	OHB

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Career Development News

The Career Development Section has scheduled a number of upcoming seminars for candidates taking the Sergeant and Police Officer III written examinations. All seminars will be conducted at Parker Center Auditorium. Please listen to the 24-hour career hotline at (213) 207-3000 for any revisions to the below listed dates

Police Officer III Written Examination Seminars:

Tuesday, February 6
1800-2000 hours, Study Techniques/Field Tactics
Monday, February 12
1800-2000 hours, Juvenile Procedures
Additional Police Officer III seminar dates to be announced.

Sergeant Written Examination Seminars:

Monday, February 5
1800-2000 hours, Study Techniques for Multiple Choice Exams and Problem Solving Exercises
Thursday, February 15
1800-2000 hours, Same topic as above—different instructor
Thursday, February 22
1800-2000 hours, Same topic as above—different instructor
Thursday, April 19
1800-2000 hours, Tactical Problems
Thursday, April 26
1800-2000 hours, Community Policing

Thursday, May 3
1800-2000 hours, Workplace Disputes
Thursday, May 10
1800-2000 hours, Personnel Issues
Thursday, May 17
1800-2000 hours, Ethics and Corruption
Thursday, May 24
1800-2000 hours, Legal Issues for Sergeants
Thursday, June 7
1800-2000 hours, Juvenile Issues for Sergeants

Employees may contact the Career Development Centers (CDC) at Lake Street, (213) 207-3000 or Westchester, (310) 342-3172, for bibliography lists, examination bulletins, and updated resources for checkout. The CDC carries updates of all resources listed on the last official bibliography and will stock all concerned bibliography items when the official 2001 bibliography is published, approximately six weeks prior to each examination.

Requirements for POST Certificates

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Education Points

One semester unit equals one education point and one quarter unit equals two-thirds of a semester unit.

For Intermediate Certificate

Minimum education points, semester units/degrees	15	30	45	AA Degree	BA or BS Degree
Years of Law Enforcement Experience	8	6	4	4	2

the employee shall have acquired the following combinations of education, either semester units or degrees, combined with the prescribed years of law enforcement.

For Advanced Certificate

Minimum education points, semester units/degrees	30	45	AA Degree	BA or BS Degree	Masters Degree
Years of Law Enforcement Experience	12	9	9	6	4

the employee shall have acquired the following combinations of education, either semester units or degrees, combined with the prescribed years of law enforcement.

For Supervisory Certificate

- employee must have completed:
1. Two years in rank as a supervisor (Sgt. or Det. II)
 2. Sergeant or Detective Supervisor School.
 3. A minimum of 60 semester units or possess an AA Degree.

For Management Certificate

- employee must have completed:
1. Two years in rank as a lieutenant.
 2. Lieutenant or Management School.
 3. A minimum of 60 semester units or possess an AA Degree.
- All applicants must submit a Certificate Application, POST Form 2-116. It takes approximately three months for certificates to be processed by POST.



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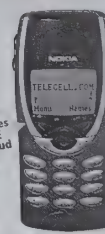
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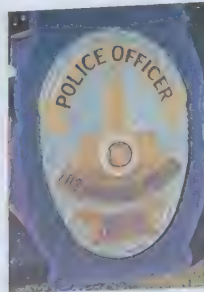
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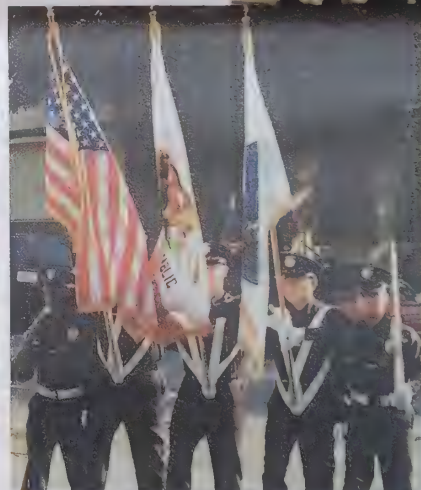
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The Div Gradua Jun



"I have succeeded"



The Training Division and Graduating Class of June 2000

"I succeeded in reaching my goal"
Ryan Verna



Photos by Dennis P. Zine and RHD Div. Reporter



*The Training Division and Graduating Class
of June 2000
Los Angeles Police Department
and Ryan Verna
announce their
Commencement Exercises
at
Los Angeles Police Academy
1880 N. Academy Drive
Los Angeles, California
on December 15, 2000 at 10:00 a.m.*

by Maria C. Marquez
77th Street Division

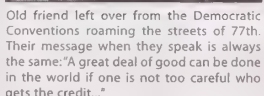
Every December officers at 77th Street join together at a location (ssshhh! It is a secret!) to celebrate Christmas. The unique thing about this get-together is that it does not only involve currently deployed personnel (probationers excluded), but past employees who have worked at the Division. The best thing about this "unofficial Christmas party" is that the attendance is the best! To see old friends and reminisce about old times has got to be the best way to finish off a year and begin a new one. There are always so many new faces, and then the "O.G.s" with their stories somehow make the night worthwhile.

Times are indeed changing, but it is nice to know that after a long year and just before a new one there are still a dedicated group of 77th Street officers that "remember the mission" and want to be with those who together as a team made any mission complete.

The Department *ruled* on the Democratic Convention activity in this city in August, 2000. The nation made a *serious statement* in the popular vote in November. The designated political population (Supreme Court of the United States) made the ultimate decision for President of the United States of America. Kind of sounds like a LAPD promotion.

Officer Richard Platzer and Hector Chairez received a radio call "211 just

occurred at 74th and Vermont." Suspect in a U-haul vehicle eastbound on 73rd. Officers quickly observed the vehicle and requested a back-up. Officer's Corey



Farell and Eric Melendez responded to the location and the suspect was taken into custody without incident. Officer Dave Martinez responded with a victim for a field show-up and there was a code (4) and a booking for 211 P.C.

Not to be outdone, Officers Eric Melendez and Officer Corey Farell received a radio call of a burglary in progress at 1426 W. 68th Street. The officers, along with Officers **Steve Zaby** and Dave Martinez, deployed on the location. After discussing tactics, a systematic search of the location was completed. Three suspects were taken into custody and booked for 459 P.C.

12/29/00 Day Watch—Officers **Kyle Cammack** and **Sonia Banuelos** investigated 459 in progress at 54th and Hoover. Because of the officers' timely response, the suspects were captured as they exited the location. The officers also recovered eight grams of cocaine and a Tec 9 semi-automatic handgun.

P.M. Watch – While in patrol in their basic car area. Officers **Brad Hearn** and **Ara Hollenback** observed a vehicle in the area of Western and Vernon Avenue containing some individuals youthful in appearance. With the area being plagued

by drive-by shootings, they proceeded to complete an auto status check of the vehicle. While awaiting the return, the driver began to drive evasively and completed numerous traffic violations. When the driver stops, he exists his vehicle, discards a .45 caliber auto and attempts to flee. Sound tactics enabled these officers to apprehend this suspect as well as the weapon and 30 rocks of cocaine.

Congratulations to all of the officers involved in these incidents! As for those of you who I did not have a chance to write about, well kudos to you, too! It goes without saying that there is always numerous incidents that are commendable when outstanding work is done in the field. But because of the workload of our Supervisors involving 1.28 investigations (interviews administrative duties, etc.) sometimes they just do not have the time to document. We do, however, sincerely appreciate their response to our request for a supervisor. Whether they are coming from the station, or are out in the field getting some air, they are a welcome face.

77th supervisors we thank you for your efforts!

Back in the day, numerous commendations were an asset in your package. And then one day I had an officer tell me: "It does not matter how many commendations you have regarding your ability to make the community safe. What matters most now is how many times you have arrestees, their families and various community members make

allegations on how you violated their rights. Ouch!

Detective **Carolyn Jones** transferred into 77th and quickly met Lt. Paul Von Lutzow who recruited her for our weight-lifting team. Carolyn quickly learned what it meant to be a "Power Pig" and took the gold medal in her class. Congratulations!

I had a close partner/friend give me a book of bedside prayers for my birthday, and there was one prayer that she said reminded her most of me. I want to share this with you because I feel that prayer is a good thing and this prayer reminds me a lot of us:

The me I wish that I could be,
Would never hurt a soul.
Could never speak in angry tones, or
have a selfish goal,
And no more wrong or harmful deeds
I'd ever want to do,
If this perfect ideal me could be a picture true.

The me I wish I could become
Will never really be,
But simply wanting such a thing
Will make a better me.

Know one thing... that anyone who follows the truth in their hearts, does not make a mistake. For anyone who helps mankind works for the Lord.

God Bless you and be safe

Det. Steve Yadon: "I will stop jamming the copy machine and leaving it for someone else to clear. I will stop playing practical jokes on innocent unsuspecting victims." *Steve's resolutions were broken the same day they were made.*

Det. Dale Heatherington: "Get even with Steve Yadon."

Det. Doug Lemelle: "Get even with Steve Vadon"

Officer **Rick Dulgerian**: "Get even with Steve Yaden."

Det. **Raynette Syncosky**: "Broaden selection of tennis shoes to match wardrobe." *Next time you see her, try not to stare at her shoes.*

Lt. Don Farrell: "Keep an eye on Steve Yadon." *Humm, maybe both eyes.*

Det. **Bill Anderson:** "To recognize the rank structure" *Yeah, right*

Det. **Rose Smith:** "I will stop singing out loud until I can hold a tune." *Broke*

Det. Sam McCauley: "I will attend a

Det. Sam McCauley: "I will attend a DHD function." Will be broken at the next scheduled function.

text: *separated junction.*

by Mary E. Lopez
Detective Headquarters Division

Please remember your loved ones on February 14th . . . and gentlemen, if you want to stay in good standings with your significant other, REMEMBER the flowers!!

I would like to share with you some of DHD's New Year resolutions:

Det. **Craig Liedahl**: "I will stop taking TMU's last cup of coffee." *How about plugging in that dirty, old coffee maker on your desk.*

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ACADEMY NEWS

by Tai Kingi
Training Division

Promotions

Congratulations to Former Lt. **Rick Webb** for his promotion to Captain I at West L.A. Division. Sgt. **Salceda** said "Rick Webb was a true team player and unselfishly dedicated many countless hours to the quality of officer training. He was disdain from mediocrity and his excellence and expertise will be missed." On behalf of all the staff of Training Division, Captain Webb will be missed for his ability to communicate and support his troops. He was recently put on trial and received an award from his staff for his design of the DNC in-service training and for just being a professional and great individual. Good luck!!

Expecting

Lt. **Carol Aborn** has been out for a few months, preparing for the delivery of her baby girl, due sometime in March. She and her husband Sgt. **Koury** received a special baby gift for her little one at the holiday party. Congrats, another LAPD baby around the corner.

Holiday Party

What a party! If you didn't attend the Christmas party, you were one of the few. The holiday party 2000 was held at the Athletic Club at Elysian Park and was a major success. The party was

coordinated by **Rene Montoya** and the station fund committee. Some of the highlights of the evening included the **Kathy Bell** gift giveaway. Bell walked away with a DVD and a television set. Officer **Mel Gamble** took home a women's Citizen watch, Officer **Ed Brown** enthusiastically took home a bubble bath set. He said he couldn't wait to go home and soak his foot in his new bubble bath set. Officer **Grace Kelly** has been sipping martinis nightly in her new plastic martini glasses, and **Mary McCarter** was not present to receive her gift. Rumor has it she won the DVD and TV player but wasn't present. The party was such a success there were absolutely no empty seats. The empty seats could have been contributed due to the five dollar fee, which included dinner, dancing and a professional portrait. The station fund committee did an excellent job with the ticket price (hint, hint for next year). Rumor has it that Human Relations Unit was the first on the dance floor and last ones to shut down the party. Once again, what a success and happy 2001.

Officer of the Quarter

Training Division is recognizing one of LAPD's finest police officers for the quarter. P.O. III **Ruby Malachi** was presented with the prestigious Officer of the Quarter award. Prior to joining the Department, Officer Malachi was attending Long Beach State University on an athletic scholarship where she received her masters degree in business administration. She was a premier pitcher and assisted the softball team in qualifying several times for national championship games. Her last division of assignment was Northeast Patrol and a tour of duty to the Gang Enforcement Detail. Officer Malachi is currently assigned to Human Relations Unit and utilizes her patrol and administrative experience to teach in service and recruit

classes. She continuously presents herself with a professional demeanor and has a friendly, down-to-earth personality. Her student critiques are constantly reflecting outstanding presentation and effective teaching skills. Officer Malachi



Officer Steve Cooper plays himself 5150 Scenario

has been instrumental in completing major projects and gathering information, which enables the city of Los Angeles to maintain a 2.2 million dollar training grant. Congratulations!! Officer Malachi. Well deserved!!

Kentwood Elementary School

Training Division coordinators of the event would like to extend our appreciation to all the staff that supported the event. Kentwood elementary has over 425 students and each student anxiously awaited Santa's visit. Third grade

teacher Mrs. Rich wanted to commend the officers' efforts and informed me that she knows for a fact that our gifts will be the only gifts that some of her students will receive this Christmas. Our efforts were also acknowledged by a parent that said that she has never seen anything like this event. She commented on how the interaction between the students and the police officer breaks the negativity that television and the media portray.

A special thanks to Officer **Jim Buck**, **Tim McRath**, **Anita Moreno**, and **Greg Davis** for coordinating the event. **Ken Olivier** donned the Santa suit and the ho ho hos. Ken said that the atmosphere was full of positivity and cheer and had a wonderful time playing Santa for the third year. **Falala . . .** to Officer **Celia Komathy** for leading the entire kindergarten with Christmas carols. Thanks to the elves, **Kathy Bell** and **Ron Evans** for Santa's assistance in handing out the gifts. Officer Evans wore a Santa's hat with flashing lights and was the highlight of conversation with the kids and teachers. Let's get ready to rumble! Sgt. **Conta** got the crowd all pumped up and did his WWF motivation speech before introducing Santa. Every year Sgt. Conta is a big hit and has a way of getting the kids out of control.

Once again, thanks to all the staff at Westchester, Davis facility and Elysian Park for their donations. Your support is vital to the success of this annual event. We couldn't have done it without you. ♦

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More Divisional Reporter on next page

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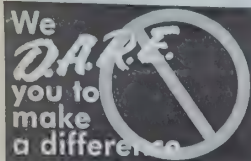
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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Mark Horton
D.A.R.E. Division

Comings and Goings

DARE Division had the opportunity to have former Captain **Earl C. Paysinger**, now commanding duty officer. He has been the commanding officer of DARE Division for approximately two years and three months. During that time I must say that DARE as a division underwent many challenges, all of which were for our growth. We at DARE Division would like to both congratulate you and wish you continued success in all of your future endeavors. Commander Paysinger, thank you for all that you have done.

Arriving

As the new commanding officer is Captain **Mark Perez** from North Hollywood Division. Welcome to the DARE family and congratulations.

Toy Drive

DARE Division was able to purchase toys and deliver them to Children's

Hospital, located on Vermont and Sunset. Officers that participated in the delivery of those toys were (from left to right in uniform) **Carol Sligh**, #27980, **Chuck**



Christmas Toy Drive Children's Hospital, 12/22/00

Gioa, #21613, **Amy Standage**, #32176, **Vince Taylor**, #30128, **Michele Howell**, #27556, and **Jim Johnson**, #22386. This event was coordinated by the persistent efforts of Officer Amy Standage.

Christmas Party

DARE Division enjoyed their Christmas party at the Beverly Garland Hotel on December 20, 2000. We were treated by Sgt. **Ed Palmer**, who did a pretty good rendition of Jay Leno, as he roasted just about everyone present. He also did an encapsulation of the year in review, from Batman's perspective. We concluded the event with gift giveaways. The gifts included three 13-inch televisions, two DVD players, two portable CD players, one remote control truck, one keyboard player, one

microwave, various gift certificates and other memorable items. However, the ultimate gift went to Officer **Deon Montgomery**, #31182. Deon received a ten-piece kitchenware set that he can use to eat his ten-piece chicken dinner. The ultimate and timely roast that came with his kitchenware came from Sgt. **Ed Palmer** when he stated "Now, Deon, your house is complete with your first pieces of furniture."

Retirement

After 30 years of service the Los Angeles Police Department is losing one of the best supervisors that one could wish for. This supervisor is compassionate, tenacious, caring, sincere and very, very thorough. Thank you, Sgt.-1 **Mike Arroyo**, #16763, for your 30 years of service and dedication.

Free Time

Many think that a lot of DARE officers only do teaching-related activities. Not so. Officer **Derwin Henderson**, #25965, coaches and coordinates a Pop Warner Football organization in the greater Los Angeles area called Willowbrook Seminoles. Officer Henderson has done this for the last three years. From the months of August through December he dedicates his off-duty time six days a week to counsel, mentor, and give guidance to numerous underprivileged kids.

This organization has been a safe haven to one of the most prolific youth programs in the area. Willowbrook is the home to nearly 300 kids which travels to numerous areas to compete for the city championships.

Officer Henderson started the program three years ago with the help of a few

other police officers, which has allowed the program to grow and prosper.

Officer Henderson also coaches the Pee Wee Division and the Y2K team had a 10-1 record. Over the last three years Henderson's teams have had an impressive 29-5 record.

The Willowbrook program is home to numerous underprivileged youths, and most of them have found new meaning to the word teamwork and dedication. Officer Henderson says he will continue to serve these youths in the area as he derives great fulfillment providing leadership and guidance.

Grandpa

Officer **Glen Bedford**, #20460, of DARE Division, is the proud grandpa of



Glenn Bedford's grandchildren: Elisa and Skyler, children of Autumn and Jim Villarreal (Laguna Beach), and Khyla, daughter of Shannon and Russ Koch (Palmdale).

(from left to right) Elishah Villarreal, Khyla Koch (born 12/9/00), 9 lbs., 6 oz., 20-1/2 inches, and Skyler Villarreal.



by Jeff Churchill
Newton Division

Happy New Year

I hope.....!

Commendable Capers

Great follow-up work:
On December 15, 2000, Officers

Trevino and **Contreras**, after reviewing a Crime Report of a robbery that occurred on December 14, 2000, drove through the N/S alley at 32nd Street east of Central Avenue in an attempt to locate the three robbery suspects. Both officers observed one Hispanic individual matching the description of one of the three robbery suspects. Officers Trevino and Contreras made a consensual contact with the suspect, completing a field interview card and photograph. Officers Trevino and Contreras released the suspect and responded back to Newton Station and prepared a photo lineup.

With permission from the Watch Commander, Officers Trevino and Contreras responded to the area where the robbery took place and located a witness who identified the individual from

the photo lineup as one of the robbery suspects. Both Trevino and Contreras, along with Officers **Yamada** and **McBride**, conducted a follow-up to 32nd Street and Central Avenue with the authorization and presence of Sgt. **Brown**.

Officers Trevino and Contreras located the suspect that they interviewed earlier and arrested him without incident for Robbery. Due to Trevino and Contreras' suave gift of gab, the robbery suspect made a full confession and identified the other two robbery suspects, who were both known gang members.

Outstanding work, guys!

Ins and Outs

Welcome back to Newton, P-3 **Banuelos**, coming in from EODD. Newton also welcomes the arrival of Detectives **Abdul-Rahman** from 77th, **Smith** from Hollywood, **Dorazio** from Narcotics, **Vergara** from Narcotics, **Adams** from North Hollywood, **Roberts** from Pacific, **Ryder** from Southeast, **Chavez** from Wilshire, and P-1 **Tingirides**, fresh from the Academy. And, as if one wasn't enough, Newton OSD PSR **Sandra Ponce's** daughter, **Sara Lopez**, was hired as student worker and will be assigned to Newton.

A big congratulations goes to Officer **Gerald McCarty**, who's heading for Club Dev. Officer **Shugi Yamada**, who's going to 77th Division, Sgt. **Sharon Kroger**, who's heading for Harbor Division, for their promotions to Det. I and to Officers **Lyman Doster** and **John Knighton** for their promotions to P-3. Doster is coming out from Newton's OSD School Car and Knighton is coming out of Newton CLEAR.

A big see ya goes to Det. **Verschueren** of Newton's OSD who was promoted to Sgt. I and heading over to Rampart. Lt. **John Dunkin** is taking off to a Lieutenant position at IAG. Management Analyst 2 **Gail BeBee** of Newton's OSD is leaving us for OCVD. Sgt. **Jeronimo Rodriguez**, who has been on loan to IAG, was finally given a position at IAG. P-1s **Steve Nunez** and **Mel Hogg** were promoted to P-2 and are outta here. Nunez is heading down to Communications and Hogg will be leaving for Southeast.

New Newtonites

Congratulations go to Newton CLEAR Detective **David Reyes'** wife, **Tanie**, who gave birth to a 22" long, 7 lb., 3 oz. girl, **Brenna**, on December 9, 2000.

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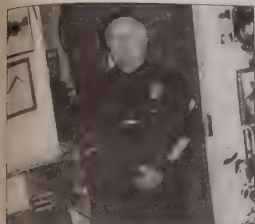
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Southern Tip

by Alley Cat
Harbor Division

This division is alive and well for all the working stiffs. The winners of the yearly employees was announced at the



Officer Bill Murrell. You're missing a hash mark, old timer.

divisional Christmas party. The recipients were Sgt. Moody, Det-III Pam Neil, Officer Fritz McDowell and civilians Iona Williams and Michelle Quintana. They had a luncheon for all at the Holiday Inn on January 19th. This was a nice way to reward the division's employees with all their hard work. Congratulations to all the winners this year.

Baby winners for the month goes to Sgt. M. Porter for the new baby girl and Officer Karl (Resh) Davis for her new baby boy. The up and coming births will be from Alma Skefish and Candice Duke. There is a rumor that Alma is having twins. I'll keep you all posted.

Officers of the Harbor Division Area wish to express their gratitude to all Department personnel for their support and participation in making the Bobby Mata Memorial Run a success. The Color Guard began with an outstanding presentation, Chaplain Ed Beardsley read the invocation and Capt. Mike (Lost for Words) Melton led the Pledge of Allegiance. Metro's "A" Platoon led the way for the approximately two hundred runners who displayed a lot of enthusiasm. Our STD Motor Units kept a close watch on all runners, and after

being buzzed by the Air Unit with siren blazing. Luckily, everyone completed the five-mile run safely. Our special thanks go to Eric Peterson who donated the t-shirts and helped us raise \$3,800 for the Mata family.

We got hit with a few transfers: Gang Sgt. Rick Plows reverted back to Det-2 and went to DSD. Keep the faith, Rick, and don't get beat up too bad. P-2 J. Kelly went to STD and F. Arain went to WLA. We got two: G. Chrisman from Communications and D. Eldridge from Rampart. New blood from TD-REC: D. Nick and S. Spaniol. Irma Dumaplin is coming out of Vice to be a star. Chris Walters, after 30 plus orals, finally got his Velcro P-3 stripes. Good luck to all, and make the best of it.

P-3-I Rosemary Piazza, with the assistance of Harbor's Juvenile Car. Officers Eddie Trujillo and Kelvin Higa, did a follow-up investigation and made a multi 7 juvenile arrest for unfit home. They left everybody around the station scratching their heads over this arrest. It seems that the kids were infested with head lice and this caused a panic at the station. Our lunchroom and police vehicles were condemned for a day or two.

Congratulations go to a small unique group (two) of officers that handle all the court duties in San Pedro. Officer John Kostyo, #17207 (29 years) and Officer William (Wild Bill) Murrell, #12676—this speaks for itself. Wild Bill was just given a plaque of appreciation by County Supervisor Don Knabe. The plaque read: *On behalf of the citizens of the County of Los Angeles, I want to convey to you our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for your 35 years of dedicated service with the Los Angeles Police Department. Your devotion to career of service in law enforcement is commendable. Of particular note is your longevity in the Harbor Area, having served this community since 1968 in Patrol, Traffic Enforcement, Accident Investigations, Vice and Detectives. Since 1989, you have provided expert liaison in the San Pedro courthouse, maintaining an outstanding reputation for efficiency and dedication to service that serves as an example to all. Congratulations for a job well done! January, 1966 to January, 2001. Hey, Bill, "There is life outside this job."*

I've had a few complaints that I've been editorializing too much. Would some of you please come up with printable memes that I can use in the Blue Line?

NoHo news

by D.C.
North Hollywood Area

Retirement Luncheon

A retirement luncheon, organized by Officer Sherri Egan and Officer Ramon Espinosa, was held at North Hollywood Station for Sgt. Ray Davies, #13105. Patrol officers and detectives were present to say farewell to Sgt.



Davies. He will definitely be missed by all here at North Hollywood. You can see him again at his retirement dinner on January 31, 2001. Contact Sgt. Martin or Officer Ed Brentlinger for further information.

Holiday Party

North Hollywood held its holiday party at the Sportsmens Lodge in Studio City. Jay Leno hosted the party and our very own Sgt. William Martin emceed the event. An excess of 270 people attended the party and everyone had a great time. Officer Tracy Maruffo was the grand prize winner of a custom leather massage chair.

East Valley Pals Golf Tournament

The much anticipated golf tournament is here again! The golf tournament will be held at the Braemar Country Club on March 26, 2001. Contact Sgt. William Martin for tickets and further information.

Well Wishes

Well wishes to Det. Theresa Gordon who underwent surgery and is at home recuperating. Hurry back, Theresa, we're counting on you for Baker to Vegas!

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More Divisional Reporter on next page

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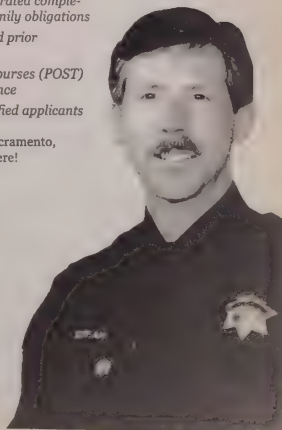
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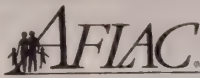
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I am writing to your company to give thanks for the wonderful employees you have in your Los Angeles office. This year has been a tough year for me as far as injuries. I signed up for AFLAC accident and disability coverage in November of 1999 thinking that it was just a "precaution" in case something happened. Well, over the last few months, several things "have happened".

First, I cut my hand and needed a hand specialist to correct the damage. I notified the AFLAC personnel in the LA office and they went to work on it immediately and got me a check within a week to offset some of the costs. Then, about two months later, I cut my finger and ended up in the hospital, on my vacation no less. I contacted them again and even with several hospital visits and different hospitals/doctors involved, they are working it out while I simply get better and go back to work. The employees in the LA office have been more than helpful with the claims, and do all of the paperwork involved, instead of me having to "prove" the injury to them. They simply ask a few questions, get the paperwork together, and my claim is paid quickly without a lot of fuss.

Overall, the employees of AFLAC here in LA are the best of any insurance company I have ever dealt with, and they make the whole insurance process a breeze. I would recommend them to anyone desiring solid insurance coverage.

Sincerely,
Marcus Gibbens
LAPD

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Floyd Toledo
Hollywood Division

In-Outs-N-Ups

Sleighting in for DP 13 are P-3 **Mark Leon** (VNY), P-2 **Thomas Burke** (COMM), P-1s **Thomas Chin**, **Christopher Corwin**, **Ryan Verna** (TRD), **SCT Lisa Cun** (RI). Skiing out to clear up the backlog at Internal Affairs is D-2 **Diane Cazares**.

Snow boarding out during DP 1 are Sgt.-2 **Anne Clark** (IAG), Sgt.-1 **William Eaton** (IAG), P-2s **Gregory McNamee** (TRD), **Michael Fisher** (WLA), **Raul Soto** (TRD).

Ice skating in are P-3s **Donald Wells** from PERS, **Dale Melton** (SW), **Raymond Ramdelhof** (VNY), P-2s **Sheila Rizzolo** (COMM), **V. Chan** (PERS), and **James Choi** (SE), and P-1 **Eric Hurd** (TD-REC).

Charity Fundraisers

Congratulations to LAPD for being the recipient of the Mayor's Trophy for our efforts in the 2000 March of Dimes Charity Campaign. "Be a Hero" was the theme for this year's campaign. Hollywood Division raised \$1,645 and came in third among all the department divisions. Also, we raised \$315 through our daffodil sales for the American

Cancer Society. Thank you all that participated and donated to these charities. A special thanks to PSR **Queta Delamoncha** for leading the successful events.

Back-to-Back Champs

The Gladiators from Hollywood Division successfully defended their flag football championship title. The tournament took place on December 9th and 10th in the city of Glendale at Hubert Hoover High School. Hollywood and Southwest Divisions were looked at as the favorites. Both teams went undefeated during the regular season. Hollywood, in the first game of the tournament, lost a close, hard-fought battle to Newton Division. Then Southwest tasted defeat against Rampart. This left both favored teams in the loser's bracket. On the second day the two favorites battled against one another and one faced elimination. Southwest quickly scored on their second and third posses-

sions. Their defensive line had Hollywood's quarterback, **Hugo Gutierrez**, running for his life. Down 14-6 at the half, Hollywood woke up and scored three unanswered touchdowns in the final quarter. The last one caught by **John Wilson** with 36 seconds left on the clock sealed the victory at 28-20.

Hollywood met a combination team made up of Rampart and Newton officers in a post championship game. Hollywood showed the reason they are the champions by blowing away the combo team 36-6.

Players: **Michael Seguin**, **Michael Rinkunas**, **Michael Snowden**, **Hugo Gutierrez**, **John Wilson**, **Doug Winger**, **Hector Diaz**, **Chris Richardson**, **Joey Yanez**, **Carlos Bedolla** and **Luis Valenzuela**. Special thanks to returning championship players **Doug Humphrey** (NO HWD) and **Craig Allen** (COMM). Congratulations to the flag football champions for 2000 for winning back-to-back championship titles.

A Patrol Story

Patrol Unit 6A71—a citizen flagged Officers **Pandolfo** and **Phelps** down at Melrose and Stanley Ave. The citizens had been shopping on Melrose Avenue when a 100 pound rottweiler was seen wandering on Stanley Avenue. The citizens stated they were unable to get back to their vehicle due to the presence of the rottweiler. Unit 6A31 Officers **Lee** and **Alvarez** were nearby completing a citation and came over to assist. The officers cautiously approached the dog, which was barking in an aggressive manner. The dog



Officer Lee and friend.

retreated to the front steps of 643 Stanley Ave. The dog refused to move further and appeared to be agitated. The officers backed off to a safe distance. Officers **Pandolfo** and **Phelps** started to check with the neighbors to locate the dog's owner. Officer **Alvarez** and Sgt. **Neville** kept a close watch on the dog. Officer **Lee** went to his vehicle and returning approached the barking dog with a bag of beef jerky. (He carries them in his equipment bag for these kinds of situations.) Officers **Phelps** and **Pandolfo** climbed the fence to 643 Stanley Ave. and discovered the back door was open and the dog appeared to reside there. Officer **Lee** threw a treat to the dog and his demeanor changed instantly. The dog approached **Lee** in a friendly manner and soon was gently taking several treats out of **Lee's** hand. Soon the dog was following **Lee's** commands including: sit, lay down, heel, and sticking a paw out to shake. Officer **Lee** led the now-friendly rottweiler back into the residence without further incident. The officers secured the residence and left a business card for the owners. Another job well done by Hollywood's canine caring patrol officers.



Back Row (l-r): **Chris Richardson**, **John Wilson**, **Doug Winger**, **Michael Rinkunas**, **Hugo Gutierrez**, **Michael Snowden**. Front Row (l-r): **Doug Humphrey**, **Michael Seguin**, **Hector Diaz**.

Year In ... Year Out ...

Yeah, yeah, yeah ... for those of us feeling a little older these days, it's one more tick mark on the calendar. Happy New Year. (Hey, you wouldn't be so full of New Year Cheer if you had my hair-line, either. Cut me some slack.)

Monty, I'll Take What's Behind Curtain Number 3

Okay, I usually don't do the whole "caper" thing, but this one bears mentioning.

One of the newest additions to our family is Lt. **Andre Dawson** from WLA. Lt. Dawson, whose background includes *Organized Crime/Vice* (investigating, not perpetrating, just in case you were wondering), a tour of *OSB CRASH* (back when I was in 5th grade), and oh yeah, he used to play with the Centurions.

At any rate, the way it happened: While riding the Red Line, minding his own business and looking to see how the "system worked," Lt. Dawson and Sgt. **Joe Quinn** were approached at

Hollywood/Vine Red-Line station where they were informed that there were three men selling fake transfers around the corner for a dollar a piece. Lt. Dawson and Sgt. **Quinn** walked around the corner and detained the three for a misdemeanor (unauthorized sale of fare media). After searching, Lt. Dawson and Sgt. **Quinn** recovered about 50 transfers. Defendants were booked for one felony and two misdemeanors. Okay, Sgt. **Quinn**, Lt. Dawson, we filled out a recap sheet just for you. Now, get back on the train, please, and go back to the station. Oh, and here ... would you put these blindfolds on please?

MWR

Okay, it's like anything else ... some of you get it and some need an explanation. M-W-R is military-speak for *Morale Welfare and Recreation*.

In an effort to keep our work life fun and productive, late last year Sgt. **Song Suh** was appointed MWR coordinator for Transit Rail Division. His first mission (surprise, surprise) was to hold a TRD golf tournament.

Though turnout was a little lower than expected, thanks to no-account no-shows, like me (sorry y'all, had to wash my hair ... or what's left of it), it was still a good effort. At any rate, the people who *did* manage to show up for their tee time all reported that they had a great time.

I hear rumors that there is another tournament in the works. Strangely though I have yet to receive my invitation. (I'm sure it's just a Post Office glitch.)

Should Old Acquaintance be Forgot

Those of you who remember my constant digs at Lt. **Eric Davis** will be saddened to know that one of my favorite targets in this monthly is gone. The good

El-tee left as the greener pastures, better coffee and the potential to rebuild his time bank at West L.A. The going away party was great ... or so he heard. Just kidding, sir.

Another goodbye is from veteran Transit Rail personality, **Ed Pigao**. P-2 **Pigao** is returning to his old stomping grounds south of Vernon, in 77th Street Division. Ed was here nearly at the "beginning" right after the LAPD/MTA merger. He has been one of our biggest recruiters of personnel (he brought me in, after all). He was also one of our 11550 experts and a senior member of the HITS cadre, and he will be missed.

Good luck from everyone, to Ed and Lt. **Davis**, but especially from ... well, you know.

And while I'm at it, welcome aboard to Officers **Castro** from 77th Street (Whoo-ya!), **Casillas** (CENT), **Bottai** (FTHL), **McNamee** (Scotland ... just kidding), and **Soto** (both) from Hollywood, **Moore** and **Ruvalcaba** (SW), **Moreno** and **Reyes** (VNY), and finally **Coleman**, **Williams-Dixon** and **Silva** join us from WLA. (Rumor has it that **Silva** is getting two good-humored partners to look after him as he learns the ropes around here. I heard that they are also street-smart, tactically sound and good looking ... but I'm not sure who they might be.)

Welcome aboard, y'all.

Hasta ...

Well, it's that time again. Time for me to sign off and go get some police work done. Now, let's see, do I have everything? Cell phone, tape recorder, personal video camera, rep's phone number ... (Y'all go on ahead, this could take a while) ... personal attorney insurance, Lybarger card ...



by Officer Rob Peters
Transit Rail Division

Season's Greetings

Welcome back. For those of you who have had your head in the sand, or for the rest (like most of you), who might not care, it's been a few months since my last edition to the *Blue Line*. Sorry, it was a self-imposed hiatus to help me gain my sanity (and my hair ... hair-club for men. Recommend it!).

Truly, though, I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season and that you spent it with those who matter to you most. For the rest of you, hard work went well.

Retired Lt. Jack Halstead's new 375 page book...

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It will bring back a lot of memories.

Northeast Corner

by Susan Loera
Northeast Division

Baker to Vegas

Now that all the holiday happenings are behind us and we are finished cleaning up all the mess it left, let's all get ready for Baker to Vegas. It's a great method to help shed a few of those



Baker to Vegas Team "2000."

pounds put on back in December. It is time for some serious training. Come on all you closet runners. Join in with the rest of us. The Northeast team has always had a good time in the training. The division morale seems to rise and we all have a great time when we have more of our fellow officers involved in the event. Our team runners have completed the run as a team, building a strong team comradere with each other. This year let's run for "us," get out there and have a great time. Northeast needs runners and support members that truly want to have a great time. The end results of shedding the holiday pounds and having a great time who can lose?

Northeast Holiday Party

On December 15th, Northeast had its annual "Holiday Party." The turnout was pretty good. As in other divisions many officers took it upon themselves to use this time to vent their feelings to the department by not attending. Those officers seemed to be the ones that missed out. We had a good turnout of Department members and family members at the party. Vice Officers even enlightened us with their attendance.

We had music by "DJ" Officer Omeda (the best DJ on the job) and blessed by the vocals from Sgt. Gourman and Sgt. Talbot. It appears that that is the most heard out of Sgt. Talbot since he had been at Northeast Division. We were all waiting for Ray Rangel sing Elvis to us. We know Rose has to hear it enough at home.

For most of the night the dance floor was full. There were also a few dance-offs. I think I even saw Sandra

Escalante challenging Capt. Jackson to a salsa dance. (Sandra won.) All that attended had a great time and the holiday spirits were high. A lot of really good prizes were given out and a lot of corny ones too. (Just kidding, Liz Mesa.) We all loved the wine. Was it "Boones Farm"? I am happy to say that the party ended nicely. There were no reports of disputes and we were not kicked out of the hotel.

Commendable Capers

We hate reading about commendable capers when our capers don't make it on print. So, if you know of one that you think is good, let me know about it. I know what it is like to get involved in something outstanding and having to be the only one to pat yourself on the back.

Yet we get the pat on the back when we handle the most elementary capers. In reality, every day an officer puts on a badge it is commendable. We do our jobs, knowing what could happen. We are paid for not only the everyday events, but for the events that could happen.

On December 4th, Officer Otero and Officer Wong were working PM watch patrol. Lt. Angelos gave them information on a domestic ADW report. The officers completed a follow-up to the girlfriend's house, received the information on the suspect. They used department resources to find an address of a possible location of the suspect. When they arrived to the location they observed a vehicle fitting the description of the suspect's vehicle. The hood to the vehicle was still warm. As officers waited for additional units, the suspect left the location in the vehicle. Officer Marinelli and Officer McCarty stopped the vehicle and detained the suspect. As officers searched the vehicle for the gun used in the ADW, Officer Otero observed a bottle of acetone and a bag containing white substance resembling methamphetamine. This all led officers



Richard Rees, aka "Bud," hard at work.

to a meth lab and the Lab Squad was called out to shut it down. Officers are commended to their attention to duty and outstanding investigative skills.

Last month I mentioned that Bud had 40 years on the job. Lt. Sanchez informed me that Bud (Richard Rees) received an award from Motor Transit Division and the Chief. Congrats to you, Bud!

New Arrivals

Officer Steve Garcia and his wife had their first child near the end of 2000. Their son, Gabriel Garcia, came into the world all full of smiles. Since Steve has been home helping his wife welcome their new son home, I have not much information on Gabriel other than he is strong and healthy. Congratulations to you both.

Officer Heilman's beautiful wife, Nicole, gave birth to their firstborn son, Drew Joseph Heilman brought in the New Year on 1/3/01 at 1911 hours. He weighed 7 lbs., 1 oz., and 20 inches in length. Congrats to both of you.

Coming and Goings

Sgt. Robert Miles is returning to us from Southeast Division. Let's keep Bob out of the 1.28 office this time. He is more likeable when he is not "one of them." Do you think he is still sleeping in the back of his truck? Officer Tony Ramirez is off to 7th Division. Good luck to you, Tony. Just remember all of your boxing moves and you will do just fine. Officer Heather Hansen is going to Wilshire Division. We are all wondering if her AM watch buddies will be okay without her. Oh, and, like, I totally forgot Officer Bernard. Well, like since she married that Chad dude, it is totally, like, Officer Poepe (Pepto). So, like,



Officer Hahm

Jennifer is going to, like, Van Nuys. That totally surprised us all.

Officer Steve Hahm is off to Santa Ana PD. Just like many other officers, Steve is going to make more money, better benefits and receive some respect. What is LAPD to do? Good luck to you, Steve. I am sure you will meet many others from LAPD out there and there will be more to come. Be safe! "Steve, so long and farewell."

Valentine's Day

Here are a few hints for Valentine's Day. To all of you men out there that think you know what she wants, you are wrong. So cancel the *Sports Illustrated* and return the power tools you got her. Do not volunteer to work if you don't need to, and do not pick a fight with her. (Unless you are trying to get rid of her.) A hint for gifts: All the stuff you didn't give her for Christmas and should have. Valentine's Day is a day to amend your errors for getting her that weed wacker for Christmas. Try red roses and a nice romantic dinner at a location that children do not frequent. I know my sweetheart will have a nice day planned for us. (Hint! Hint! Fernie!)

More Divisional Reporter on next page

Los Angeles Police

MEMORIAL FOUNDATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

The Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation will issue five \$5,000 scholarships in June 2001. Each scholarship will be for \$5,000 per year for four years/\$20,000 maximum

To be eligible, a student must be the child of a current LAPD employee off probation and be enrolled or accepted at an accredited college or university. Current college students must not have completed more than their sophomore year.

The merit-based awards will be made to students who have demonstrated:

- a) Excellence in academic studies;
- b) Good character and high moral standards; and
- c) Extra-curricular achievement

Each applicant is required to submit two letters of recommendation.

One must be written by a current (12th grade or college) teacher. The other letter may come from any unrelated adult who knows that applicant well enough to comment on his or her character and moral standards.

The deadline for receiving all materials is March 30, 2001. Applications may be obtained by contacting:



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Los Angeles, CA 90012
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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

RECRUITMENT LAPD SECTION

by John Collier
EODD Recruitment Section

The year 2000 has come and gone and proved to be extremely busy for Recruitment Section. We attended over a thousand recruitment events locally and recruited in more than half of the 50 United States. A total of 14,075 candidates took the written test in 2000. This was a dramatic increase from the previous two years. In 1999, 6,353 applicants took the test and in 1998, 7,561 took the test. The large increase in applicants was due in large part to the efforts of the officers in Recruitment Section who actively recruited and campaigned outside of Los Angeles in an effort to hire the best qualified officers for our department. A total of 368 recruits were hired in 2000. The December academy class was comprised of 21% recruits who had tested from out of town. It is anticipated that future classes will have an even higher percentage of recruits who tested outside of Los Angeles as more candidates are processed through the system. On average, it takes 6 to 8 months to complete the process.

Starting in 2001, we will focus our recruitment efforts locally throughout Southern California with a heavy emphasis at the collegiate level. Every officer in Recruitment Section has been specifically assigned to a number of schools from a pool of over 75 local colleges and universities ranging from San Diego County to Santa Barbara County. At these schools, officers will regularly visit, meet and maintain contact with student organizations, career centers and criminal justice departments. We will attend every viable recruitment event and will make classroom presen-

tations on those campuses with criminal justice programs.

Officers **Amy Schnieder** and **Joe Torres** will start the new year by recruiting in Phoenix, Arizona, at the Road Runner Regional Rodeo 2001. They will then administer the written test, which has been advertised throughout Arizona. Officer **Alicia James** and I will attend the Job Fair at the Port Hueneme Naval Base on January 26th, and we will also administer the written test.

Officer **James, Joe Ferreira, Amira Smith**, and I will recruit in the Bakersfield area from February 6th through February 10th. The test will be given at Bakersfield Community College on February 10th at 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Additional regional recruitment trips are planned for Fresno and Sacramento in February and March. Past recruitment trips in these regions have generated a lot of interest and success.

On Saturday, February 28th, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., the City of Los Angeles Police and Fire Departments will salute Black History month at the Crenshaw Christian Center (home of the Faith Dome). Officer **Kip Jackson** put in a lot of hard work to help make this event happen. Scheduled events will include the police officer written test, career and oral preparation seminars, exhibits, demonstrations, celebrity appearances, food and beverages. This will be a very worthwhile event and we encourage everyone to attend.

If you know of anyone interested in testing with the Los Angeles Police Department, please give the candidate a completed "Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program Card" to turn in at the time of testing. If the candidate is appointed to the Academy, you will receive a \$200 bonus. These cards are available at the City Personnel Department, Employee Opportunity and Development Division, Recruitment Section and at all departmental personnel offices. If you have any questions, please call us at (800) 954-0321. Please check out our Recruitment Web Page at www.lapdonline.org.

West LA Journal

by Mary Dacey
West L.A. Division

Congratulations, but sorry to see you go, to both Captains **Michael Hillmann** and **Wallace Graves** who have moved on. We wish them all the best at Air Support and Financial Crimes, respectively. Lt. **Tom McDonald** (who is that man in those Foster Grants?) also has been promoted to COS as Lieutenant II—all the best to you, Lieutenant. Next **Blue Line** will feature exciting info on our new captains.

Officer **Peggy Henry** and husband, **Larry**, are the proud parents of Megan Morgan Henry, born 8/7/2000. She weighed in at 7 lbs., 15 oz. and was 21



Megan Morgan Henry.

inches long. Congratulations to Peggy who was from the class of 7/95.

Sgt. **Greg Hancock** said, "Those guys rarely get recognized for their outstanding service." He was referring to the custodial services crew, among whom is **Melvin Pineda**. Melvin usually does his duties with one arm tied behind his back as he is a proficiency expert and totes a big broom. Melvin works alongside **Juan Marquez**, **John Sandeen** and Supervisor **Bill Wisner** keeping the station Spic 'n Span! Thank you all!!!

Lt. **Eric Todd Davis**, AM Watch Commander, has been with the LAPD for 19 years. We are happy to report that he is now with us after spending time in such areas as narcotics and vice. He said he's here because "he still loves patrol." He also said he owes his whole career to Officer **Tony Rivera** who raised him from



Lt. Eric Todd Davis Extraordinaire, WLA

a boot sergeant. Way to go, Tony, and thank you E. T. Davis for taking a few moments to tell us a little about yourself!

Sometimes, like Dorothy from The Wizard of Oz, you might think that "people come and go so quickly here!" Well, that's not always the case as there are many WLA employees who have



WLA's very own Melvin Pineda of custodial services

been here since about the time dinosaurs roamed the Earth. I'll tell you more about them and their great impact on WLA next time we meet for a cup of tea, coffee, or perhaps an adult beverage and *The Thin Blue Line*.

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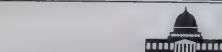
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Pacific Breeze

by Cheri Roberts
Pacific Division

2000 Holiday Gala

Pacific Area's holiday gala was a roaring success, again this year. Due to the date and unavailability of hotels in our area for the party, a room was booked at the Radisson Hotel, which would only



Sergeant Rick Boyle shows off his debonair quality by wearing his kilt for the holiday gala.

hold up to 120 people. After the immediate sale of over 120 tickets, with addi-

tional personnel still wanting to attend, it was determined that a bigger room was needed. Due to the late notice, there were no additional ballrooms available at the Radisson. Instead, they provided us with a large white tent just off the pool, which allowed for additional ticket sales. The area was allocated for a total of 180 people. 180 tickets were sold, and 175 people attended (not including the people who showed up after 9:00 for dancing and socializing). The tented facility was decorated with icicle lighting and adorned with white draping throughout. The buffet dinner was held just outside the tent, in order to accommodate 18 tables of 10, the disc jockey and the dance floor. It was a tight squeeze, but we're a tight knit group



Sergeant Cindy Halford is "floored" when Sergeant Steven Gottschalk donates his \$500 winnings to Officer Robert Persell.

Due to the incredible knack and flair of Officer Wayne Goodman, there were more prizes to raffie off than time allowed. Many local businesses, and some private persons, donated prizes such as cash, t-shirts, VCRs, emergency road kits, and restaurant gift certificates. Pacific Area Boosters Association donated a grand prize of \$500 cash, which was

Duration of the cruise is three days and she promises they will be fun-filled. For more information, see Linda in the Subpoena Control Officer or call 800-555-2309. Hope you can make it.

Congratulations

Congratulations go out to Officer Jason Loya on his promotion to Detective. After many years at Hollenbeck, working a variety of assignments, Jason is now pushing a pencil at Southeast Division. Jason, congratulations on your promotion and thank you for all your hard work while at Hollenbeck.

Congratulations also go out to one half of "Los Polivoces" Footbeat team, Officer Isidro Villafana, on his promotion to P-3 in the Vice Unit. Isi has now shed his uniform and is hanging around Hollenbeck's parks seeing if he can "score." Hey, Isi, now you can do it officially. Have fun in your new assignment.

Bienvenidos

A big Hollenbeck welcome goes out to my old training officer, Sgt. Tom Burris, who joins our family from Pacific Division. We also say hello to J. Perez, coming our way via Van Nuys.

Adios

We bid farewell and happy tidings to Sgt. Frank Anguiano, who is now assigned to Transit Bus Division. We also say hasta la vista to R. Garcia, who is now drinking coffee in the building at Juvenile Division. Joining Sgt. Anguiano on the bus are P-2s R. Bellows, P. Miller and K. Sion, also at TBD. Last, but not least, P-2 L. Leong is now patrolling the streets of Wilshire Division.

Que Paso?

This month's salute goes out to my good buddy Cliff "Johnny Bravo" Humphries.



Officers Rayney Arnold and Donavan Bearer show the party goers exactly how to do the "Electric Slide."

won by Sgt. Steven Gottschalk. After winning the cash, he immediately reached for the microphone and expressed his intention to donate the money to Officer Robert Persell, reminding us about the joy of giving. Sgt. Cindy Halford then got up and spoke about Robert, his illness, and the importance of the LAPD family sticking together in a time of need. Within seconds, other Pacific officers were getting out of their seats and giving Sgt. Halford handfuls of money. Some donated the money they had just won at the party, and others donated from their pockets. By the end of the evening we had a wonderful holiday gift for the Persell family. It really reminded everyone what the holiday season is all about. The party turned out to be an enjoyable and successful event, highlighted by the true meaning of Christmas!

Pacific Area Toy Drive

Pacific's Annual Toy Drive was another wonderful success, due to the generous toy donations from local businesses and Pacific Area personnel. The toys were collected for distribution between two of Pacific's Basic Car Area's (14A13 and 14A49), Sojourn, and Pacific Area's adopted school (Marina Children's Center). In addition, two DAPS families were adopted by a local Pacific Area law firm and Pacific Area Booster Association. On Friday, December 22, 2000, Captain Bill Williams, Officer Cheri Roberts, and Officer Wayne Goodman handed out over 150 Teletubbies to the children at the Marina Children's Center, which

was televised on Fox 11 news that night. The remaining toys were distributed the following day by Senior Lead Officer Dennis Beacham and City Attorney Susan Wagner. Officers Michelle Eskridge and Rayney Arnold played "Santa's helpers" to the two selected families and dropped off several wrapped presents to help make their Christmas complete. It's amazing to see that a gift so small can make a smile so big!!

Miscellaneous

Well, although we were incredibly busy in December, it appears that there is not a whole lot to report. I would like to remind you all that Valentine's Day is on Wednesday, February 14th. Don't forget that special someone! Have a great February!

Movin' Up

Congratulations goes out to the following people who have recently been promoted: Sgt. H. Marino, who went to WIL; Sgt. I. Byron Roberts, who went to HOBK; and P-3s Fahrney and Hiramoto, who remain here at PAC.

Movin' In

We welcome the following people who have recently been transferred to Pacific Area: Det. Spelman over from DSD, Officer Feliz in from TD, Officer Arceneaux in from WIL, Officer Dagley over from 77th, Officer Gonzalez in (to LAX) from Metro, Officer Alvarez in (to LAX) from ND, Officer Millan in (to LAX) from STD, P-Is Mendoza and Whittenton in from RTC, and Reserve Officer Romero in from RAMP.

Movin' Out

We wish the best of luck to the following people who have recently left Pacific: Sgt. Burris, who went to HOBK; Sgt. Slater, who went to VNYS; Det. Ron Cade, who went to WIL; Officer Le, who went to WLA; Officer Putnam, who went to 77th; Officer Lugo, who went to NEWT; and Officers Luledzhyan and O'Connor, who went to SW.

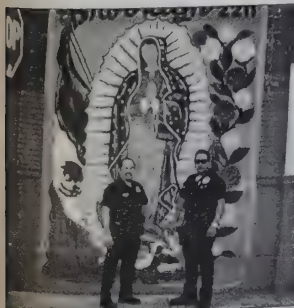


by Ruben Rodriguez
Hollenbeck Division

Happy St. Valentine's Day. May life be a bowl of cherries as your sweetheart whispers sweet nothings in your ear.

Baker to Vegas

A reminder that the annual Challenge Cup Relay is just around the corner and we are still in need of support personnel.



"Los Polivoces"—Isidro Villafana and Vince Correa on their beat.

To volunteer your time or vehicle, please see Austin Fernald in the SLO office.

Cruise Announcement

PSR Linda Ortega would like me to inform you that she has put together a cruise package aboard Carnival's The Holiday. Sailing date is set for April 20 and it includes all the usual amenities.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

TRAFFIC TALK

by Eugene "The Taxman" Bedolla
South Traffic Division

Greetings, amigos. Happy New Year, 2001! If you ever saw the movie "2001, a Space Odyssey," some predictions did not pan out while some have. We do not have a moon colony, nor is there a spaceship on its way to Jupiter. However, the movie depicts an orbiting space station, which as you know is in the process of being built. Additionally, in the movie there are video phone units where you can see the individual you're speaking with. This technology is currently available. The movie was released in 1968. Try predicting what will be commonplace in the year 2033. That's what the author and film director did in 1968. May 2001 be your finest year for you and your loved ones.

Holiday Christmas Party

On December 9, South Traffic Division held its annual holiday Christmas party. Without a doubt, this was by far the most successful celebration ever put on by South Traffic. The event was held at a restaurant in the Ports O'Call section of San Pedro. We had

so quiet when the numbers to the door prizes were being read. TVs, we had 'em, DVD players, we had 'em, dinners, we had 'em, jackets, we had 'em, DVD movies, we had 'em, boomboxes, we had 'em, his and her watches, we had 'em, harbor cruises, we had 'em, car washes, we had 'em, a Goodyear blimp ride, we had it. That's right, some lucky soul won a ride on the Goodyear blimp. Once the delicious dinner had been consumed, the door prizes given out, words of inspiration spoken, it was time to have a good



Officer Ray Banker and Officer Egon Keil say "Hi."

ol' party. As a sidenote, the FBI, ATF, CIA and IRS and the Florida Supreme Court are looking into possible tampering with the door prize giveaway. What are the odds that one officer would hold the winning tickets to a brand new VCR player and a brand new DVD player? Well, Officer Ray Ygual was the "lucky" recipient of these prizes and claims there is nothing to investigate. We will see, Ray, we will see.

A very special thank you to Sgt. Lanette Smith, Officer Harold Hills, Officer Mike Cummins and Officer Valerie Burnham and to all of the other nameless individuals for their efforts to the successful conclusion of this event. Lastly, Capt. Morris Smith is the backbone of any successful event and your troops say thanks.



The Four Amigos.

approximately 140 people in attendance. The room was fabulously decorated which added to the holiday cheer. Master of ceremonies for the event was the one, the only, the legend, Sgt. Lanette Smith. We reminisced about the year gone by, and our illustrious Capt. M. Smith spoke to his troops and gave us his inspiration for the future. We were all very pleasantly surprised by the DJ. For the evening, which turned out to be Mr. Robocop himself, BCMC Officer Ron Roberson. His ordeal of recovery could be made into a movie, but I better not give him any ideas. Come door prize giveaway time, the air of anticipation was so thick that you could have cut it with a butter knife. I have never seen a group of supremely gregarious officers in one room become

Arrivals and Departures

South Traffic would like to extend our very best to Officer Ladonna Cissell who is departing to Media Relations and to Officer Isabel Millan who is departing to Pacific Division-LAX. Best wishes! We wish to extend a welcome to Officer J. Kelly who is departing Harbor Division to join the crew of South Traffic Division. Greetings!

Final Thoughts

As always, don't forget your fellow officers who are sick, ill or injured. Give them a call. Finally, Motors keep the rubber side down and CI keep the light bar off of the pavement.

F-16

by Julian Almaraz
Foothill Division

I would like to apologize to my readers for the absence of January's article. I was on vacation.

Foothill Patrol

From the files of "Ripley's believe it or not..." On Thanksgiving day, Capt. Garner went to PM watch roll call and did ultimate "random acts of kindness" (as Oprah calls it). Capt. Garner had all the officers place their names in a hat and he selected one of those names. The lucky name that he selected would get to have the night off and Capt. Garner would work the shift for that officer.

P-2 Matthew Olmstead, #32884, was the lucky recipient, and he was assigned to work the front desk. So, if you happened to call Foothill station on Thanksgiving night you would have heard Capt. Garner answering the telephone.

Because of Capt. Garner's dedication and support for his troops, Officer Olmstead was able to enjoy Thanksgiving dinner at home with his family. We here at Foothill Area are blessed and fortunate to have such a kind and generous leader. Thank you, Captain G!

During the holidays, Sgt. Il Mark Aragon, PM assist W/C, collected over \$800 from all officers working patrol to buy bikes, clothes and food for local children in the area. The money was given to Assemblyman Tony Cardenas, 39th District. I talked to one field deputy from Assemblyman Cardenas' office who stated that he delivered one of the bikes, clothes and food to a single father, who was in a wheelchair and raising a little girl living on SSI. The little girl had a smile from ear to ear when she observed the bike and thought she won the lottery. Talking to the field deputy regarding the little girl's reaction brought tears to your eyes. Foothill officers, like always, thought with their hearts and helped the local children in the community have a wonderful Christmas.

The holiday party was very successful due to the hard work of all CRO Officers Jackie Landtiser, Lori Forman, Don Blanken, Norm Dumais and Sgt. Joe Flores. During the holiday party we gave out some fun gifts to several officers. We tried to give them out in jest and good positive humor. These same CRO officers were involved in cooking a Christmas dinner and performing for all the senior citizens at Burn's Manor in Sunland. Capt. Garner helped cook the turkey and serve these citizens.

Foothill Sports

We would like to congratulate several Foothill officers who are involved with the LAPD Motocross team—Officers Rob Plourde, Lomax, Vagana and Sanchez. The Motocross team has won several police events, which include first place in the Police and Fire Games in San Bernardino and the National Police, Fire Games. The team was awarded the Chief's award. Officer Plourde won the

Athlete of the Year over other sporting events. Officer Plourde is involved in off-road racing team called the Badgers, which include LAFD, LAPD and Sheriff's club, that race in the desert. Several team members will be attending the World Police and Fire Games in Indianapolis in 2001. The Motocross team members would like to thank all of their sponsors, FMF RACING, TROY LEE DESIGNS, BELL HELMETS, SMITH GOGGLES, MAXIMA OIL, ALPINSTAR BOOTS, ACCERBILS, and IMS GAS TANKS. With the help of all these sponsors our LAPD motocross team was able to have a successful year.

Foothill basketball team is having a great season so far. They are 4-0.

Foothill Softball teams and co-ed team will start practice the mid month of January 22 at Branford Park at 1000 hours. The first co-ed police games will be in Arizona. March 14 to March 17 in Mesa. Application is due by February 20-21. I have an application. Please call me at 818-608-4111 and 818-489-0369. The co-ed new team captain will be Diane Escalante, and I will still be coaching the team.

Foothill Detectives

We would like to welcome Foothill Area New OIC of Det. Capt. Kris Pitcher. We will truly miss Capt. Egan's humor and friendship. Capt. Egan will be going to IAD, and they will be getting an outstanding leader. You take care and you will always be welcome here at Foothill.

Last month we lost several outstanding units back to patrol, due to deployment problems. The first unit is the valley COBRA unit, which in fact worked close with our area detectives, in solving many crimes, which involved plainclothes officers. Without this unit it's going to be very difficult to solve these type of crimes. We here at Foothill valued all these officers' expertise and work habits. Over the last several years these officers have made over 1,000 arrests with 100% conviction rate, minimal complaints and uses of force. These officers were very professional and gave all these violent criminals respect and treated them decent, even though these suspects never gave the same respect to their victims. All COBRA officers will be missed in Foothill area. Thanks for the help and an outstanding job.

The next unit we lost in the Valley was the REACT unit, which located and arrested many sexual offenders, who prayed on children and women in the area. The officers had great investigation skills, tracking these individuals and verifying their registration of their offense to the nearest police station. The REACT unit made the community and their children safe from these sexual predators and the reports of this nature had ceased. Great job REACT officers. We will miss your proactive investigations.

We here at Foothill Area were visited by one of our legions, Sid and Linda Beniaske from Mt. Pleasant, MI. Sid retired over seven years ago and moved his family to Michigan back to his hometown for a quiet and peaceful life. Sid now works for the Michigan Correction Department, taking care of all those criminals. Sid is still in great physical shape and has a positive attitude. Sid completed over 20 years with LAPD. You take care, Sid, and Linda we loved your Christmas card and the photos.

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VTDvoice



by Kurt Garcia
Valley Traffic Division

2001-A Traffic Odyssey

Valley Traffic's Christmas party was a great success! The food was delicious and our honored guest, Jay



Christmas spirit comes to VTD family.



Valley Traffic Division officers singing at a birthday party.

Leno, provided an outstanding monologue. The big trip winners were **Jim & Winnie Davis** (3-day cruise to Mexico) and **Ryan Lorey** (Southwest Airlines package). Ryan told me he is planning on going to Napa and visit the wineries. A special thanks to **Patty Miller** at Third Millennium Travel.

One morning an unidentified CTSU member was on his way to work and was listening to KZLA on his radio. He overheard a caller who phoned the radio station pleading for assistance for an underprivileged family. The family had only been eating beans and tortillas for the past three weeks. The caller was a friend of the family and asked the station to provide the family's information for donations of food and presents. The unidentified CTSU member heard the family was located in Van Nuys and called the radio station to sponsor the family. The DJ asked which corporation he was from. The CTSU member was hesitant and after much pressure from the DJ, finally answered LAPD Community Traffic Services Unit.

A few days later, **Santiago Rosales** went to that family's apartment. He discovered that there were only beans and tortillas to eat and no presents or a Christmas tree. Santiago got back to the station and advised Sgt. **Dale Turner** and other CTSU members of the family's situation. Each CTSU member chipped in \$20 of their own money. **Randy Bowman** and **Santiago Rosales** rounded up clothes. **Mitch Nowlen** and **Conner T. MacIvor** purchased toys and supermarket gift certificates with the collected money. Other members wrapped gifts!

Then **Jim Panek** got on the phone and called a very good friend of his—Santa Claus (aka **K. Garcia**). He was able to get Santa to adjust his busy

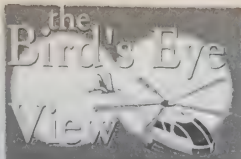
schedule and join them in delivering the gifts. Of course Santa got a police escort! Santa handed out junior police badges to the four kids and passed out candy canes to the other children of the apartment complex. The family was extremely grateful!

Photo Red Light

Over the inaugural weekend at Sherman Way and Winnetka Avenue,



73 warnings were issued! A total of 289 warning letters were issued for December (see photo). Keep up on those no front plate citations. See ya next month!



by Jack H. Schoneley
Air Support Division

Retirement

After 32-1/2 years of service to the LAPD, Capt. **Ken Hale** has retired from the department. Capt. Hale was a Lieutenant at ASD for eight years prior to making Captain. He returned to ASD one-and-a-half years ago as the OIC. The Captain has been very busy with the arrival of seven brand new aircraft and a great deal of new personnel. The Captain flew ASTRO as often as possible over the past months including the



photo by Gonzalez

Capt. Ken Hale conducting his last pre-flight at Air Support.

last flight of the remaining AS350 B1. Our new fleet is all AS350 B2s made by American Eurocopter.

The Captain plans on staying very busy with classic car appraising and flying. Ken Hale has a true love of aviation and there is no doubt that it will always be an important element of his life.

Captain Hale, from the men and women of Air Support Division, thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the department and ASD. We all wish you the best of luck in retirement.

Welcome

A big ASD welcome to our new OIC Captain **Mike Hillmann**. Captain

Hillmann comes to ASD with great enthusiasm and experience. He is very anxious to get started at ASD and plans on going through Tactical Flight Officer training first thing. Captain Hillmann has 34 years with the department and is well known for his leadership and tactical abilities. We are very excited to have Captain Hillmann here leading the Air Support team

TFO Info

The new year brought in the first loanee from the most recent TFO list **Kevin Gallagher** from Newton Division is on loan and doing well with his training. **Greg Duran** has transferred in and begins his four month probation/training period. Next D.P. **Mike Fraser** from Rampart comes to ASD for his one month loan for the TFO position. Best of luck to all of you.

Emergency Trigger

The Emergency Trigger Simplex, also known as "E.T. Simplex" and "Simplex 8" is a quick and efficient way for us to communicate with ground units. Airtime on most frequencies is scarce, so if you need to give the aircrew some vital info without being stepped on, feel free to ask us to go to the emergency trigger simplex. The key word here is **SIMPLEX**. Otherwise communications will be asking who is broadcasting on the frequency. This is not a substitute for a TAC on big incidents, but a quick way to exchange information without being stepped on by code 10s.

Tip of the Month

Recently aircrews have noticed that UPRs are being deployed on incidents without advising the aircrew. Although it is certainly not required to make this notification, it is tactically essential to advise the aircrew of the deployment so that they can point out potential hazards and cross-fires to the ground units. We have a very unique perspective from above and can assist you a great deal with the positioning of the UPR. We are able to clearly observe fields of fire and pass important information back to you. This is only possible if we know that the UPR has been deployed. We ask that officers and supervisors take a minute to let us know your intentions with regards to the UPR and we will assist you with that deployment. Always watch your six.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Det. Tom Wich
Robbery Homicide Division

Commendable Incident

Det. Steve Koman, Robbery Specials, provided the following.

Starting on March 7, 2000, a group of ruthless criminals began a series of follow-home robberies targeting senior citizens. During the following six months these suspects would be responsible for 60+ robberies throughout Los Angeles County. The suspects' M.O. was to target elderly citizens (ages 60 to 80) that they would observe withdraw currency from banking institutions, then follow them to their next destination where they would rob them. The suspects wore masks, were armed and were very violent during their encounters with these helpless victims. During one of the robberies these cowards shot and murdered their victim. Another victim suffered a heart attack and passed away only hours after being robbed.

Based on the complexity of this investigation, Det. Koman, along with his partner, Det. James Martin, opted to formulate a "mini" task force to arrest these fools. With the assistance of detectives and officers from Newton and 77th Street Areas, primarily Det. Mario Cortez, #27761, and P-3 Dorian Henry, #30472, a hunt for the suspects began. For the next two months, beginning on April 21, 2000, the detectives and officers interviewed and showed photographic lineups to over one hundred victims and witnesses. These investigators also conducted numerous surveillances and stakeouts. The investigators subsequently identified three separate robbery crews consisting of gang members from south-end gangs.

Based on their hard work, the investigators located and arrested 14 hardcore criminals, including the two murderers. These arrests cleared 50 of the robberies. The investigators also were able to identify a dozen other gang members that are either directly or indirectly involved with other similar robberies. In addition to solving these crimes, the task force has been assisting other South Bay area cities with similar crimes. Based on their assistance, detectives from the Hawthorne Police Department were able to identify and arrest three suspects responsible for follow-home robberies. As of this article, the detectives are continuing their investigation

with the hope of putting additional suspects behind bars.

We at RHD would like to thank the divisional and detective commanding officers from Newton and 77th Street Divisions for allowing their investigators to assist with this investigation. In today's climate it is not easy to give up vital resources, but in this case it was necessary, and the desired result was achieved.

Retirements

Well, we lost another one. Det. II Eddie Ramirez, #22501, assigned to the Officer Involved Shooting section, has pulled the pin after 20 years of dedicated service. I've had the privilege of working with Ed at RHD, Newton Vice and Newton Detectives. What is LAPD's loss is the Riverside County District Attorney Investigators Unit's gain. Good luck in your endeavor.

RHD Family Business

Seems we have a famous athlete among us. Back in 1979 through 1983 our own Steve Koman, K-III Robbery Specials, was attending Adrian College.



Steve Koman with Tom Heckert (Koman's College coach, then). Tom is now Director of recruiting for the Miami Dolphins.

Adrian, Michigan, on a football scholarship. In his sophomore year, Steve was playing on the defensive line for the Bulldogs, an NCAA Division III team. It was during this year that the team went undefeated (9-0) for the first time in 69 years. This past winter, Steve and his fellow 1980 teammates were inducted into the Adrian College Hall of Fame for their accomplishments during their undefeated season. Congratulations.

2nd Annual Reunion

Get out the calendars and mark this date: *Saturday, June 9, 2001, at 1200 hours.* This is the day for our second annual RHD family summer steak-fry and reunion. We had so much fun the first time **Ottis Marlow, J. R. Kwok, Ray "Boom Boom" Hernandez** and I have again volunteered to put this great event together. I'll have more info in the coming *Blue Lines*.

Until next time, BE SAFE . . . ❖

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by James Tomeo
Rampart Division

It's been a few months since the last article, and a lot has gone on in the Division. Rampart's baseball team won their championship, and the flag football team placed second in the intra-departmental tournament. Basketball season has also started off, with Rampart entering three teams. The "A" team is off to a slow start with a 1-4 record, the "C" team is undefeated, and our "D" elective team is also undefeated.



Top Row (l-r): P-2 Paul Lopez, P-2 Nate Baez, P-2 Alex Burton, P-2 Jerry Janeczek, P-2 Bobby Guyer, P-2 Justin Stewart. Bottom Row (l-r): P-2 Jorge Juarez, P-2 Carlos Escobar, P-3 Brian Eldridge, P-2 Armand Perez, P-2 Frank Garcia. Not Pictured: P-3+1 Kevin Webb, P-3+1 Tony Lopez, P-3 Eddie Arrangure, P-2 Fernando Prieto.

Our former jail is still under construction and it's looking like it may be done this February, providing a new home for F.E.S. and the rest of the space is basically up for grabs.

Promotions

Congrats to big daddy **Brian Miyakawa**, and **Maria "I got hurt falling off the bike" Perez** for making **D-1**. Brian is on his way to Training Division, and Maria is sliding on over to Hollenbeck Division. Former **P-1's Brown, Criswell, and Green** are all on their way to Van Nuys Division as **P-2's**. **Lt. Lehman** and **Sgt. Daly** both go from a 1 to a 2, and **P-2 Turner** goes from a 2 to a 3. And last but not least, **Capt. McCarthy** has been promoted to Captain-2 and is transferring to IAG. Fair winds and following seas to all.

In's and Out's

We are also losing **P-2 Eldridge, D.** to Harbor Division. On the "In's" we are getting **Detectives Batson, J., Conner, T., Dehesa, C., Frus, C.** (a.k.a. Scott's better half), **Parra, J.** and **Setzer, C.**; **Sgt. Verschuere, P.** (say that 10 times real fast!); **P-3's Rabbett, R. and Smalling, R.**; and for those new **P-3's**, we get **P-1 Beumer, S.** and **Lt Wade, G.** and **Capt. Shur, D.** round out the transfers for this month.

New Arrivals

This month we have two new baby boys that join our family here at Rampart. First there is **Robert (a.k.a. Bob) Ward** and his wife **Connie** are the proud new parents of **Robert Ward III**, who is doing well and looks like dad on top. Then we have the newest arrival from **Armand Perez** and his wife **Maria**; the proud parents named the little guy **Armand Alejandro Perez**. Little Armand has said his first words already "Go Raiders!"

Rampart's baseball team, "The Knights", had such an outstanding year that I would like to take a look at their season in the *Los Angeles County Adult Baseball Association*. The team had an almost perfect year with a record of **8 wins** and only **1 loss**. With all that has been going on here at Rampart Division the baseball field proved to be a great gateway for the guys. The team was very competitive, played hard-nosed baseball, and deserved to be crowned champions.

The team was led offensively by **P-3 Brian Eldridge** who led the team in base hits, batted .516, slugging percentage of .967, **3HR**, 14 runs scored and 15 RBI's. He also anchored the defense playing a solid shortstop. **P-2 Carlos Escobar** was the premier pitcher in the league. He finished with a perfect record of 7 wins and 0 losses. In the season opener, Carlos pitched 8 strong innings; he struck out 11, and allowed only 1 hit.

P-2 Nate Baez managed the team and

had a team high 10 stolen bases, 4 doubles and 15 runs scored. Other offensive highlights included **P-2 Armand Perez** with a .421 batting average and 3 doubles. **P-2 Jerry Janeczek** with a .364 batting average and 8 walks. **P-2 Justin Stewart** batted .400 with 6 stolen bases. **P-2 Bobby Guyer** hit 2 home runs and batted in 8 runs. **P-2 Frank Garcia** batted .357 and **P-2 Juarez** hit for a .348 average.

The championship game was definitely one for the ages. **Carlos Escobar** pitched his typical dominating game. The offense sputtered early on scoring only one run through the first 7 innings. Carlos gave way to **Bobby Guyer** in the late innings, who came in throwing close to 90 mph for two innings. With the game tied in the 10th inning the Knights opponents had the winning run on second base with 2 outs. The batter hit the ball to left field, where **P-2 Alex Burton** fielded the ball and made a strong throw to the plate. **Nate Baez** blocked the plate and tagged out the potential winning run. The umpire initially called the runner safe, stepped back gathered himself and amongst the chaos and changed the call correctly to OUT!

Then in the top of the 11th inning **Nate Baez** and **Armand Perez** reached base safely, to set the table for **Brian Eldridge**. Brian knocked a high fast-ball approx 380ft, for a game winning three-run homerun. **Armand Perez** came in for **Bobby Guyer** and closed out the 11th inning on the mound, earning the Knights the championship, with a final score of 5-2. Special thanks to **P-2 Joel Espinosa** for providing the team with hats. Get well soon "Espy" our thoughts are with you and yours.

SPORTS BEAT

Sports Beat is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. For information about submissions to Sports Beat, please call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800.

LAPRAAC Sports Roundup

by Lew Snow
LAPRAAC Sports Beat Editor

There must be a scientific correlation between the amount of gray hair on your head and the increasing speed in which time passes. How else can we be nearing the end of the intradepartmental basketball season so quickly? At our press deadline it was anticipated league play would finish up around Valentine's Day with the Captain Al Nelson Tournament for the department championship starting shortly thereafter. If you're a basketball fan and want to see if DARE can

pull off a threepeat, check the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800 for up-to-date game schedules.

★ ★ ★ ★

Softball Team Captains Meeting Scheduled

If we're looking at basketball in our rear mirror that means softball season is fast approaching. The first softball team captains meeting will be held Thursday, February 8, 12:00 noon in the lounge above the Elysian Park Academy Café. Head Umpire Joe Oliveri and LAPD Athletic Director Tony Adler will review

softball rules, explain fees, hand out team rosters, and go over new procedures on donations from outside sources.

Already have a team set or thinking about forming one? Mark your calendar now—this means a *must* meeting to attend! To RSVP, call Athletic Secretary Agnes Miranda at (323) 221-5222, ext. 218/219.

★ ★ ★ ★

Date Set for Memorial Run

Saturday, May 12, has been nailed down as race day for the 23rd edition of the LAPD Memorial Run and Relay. Metro has won the last four races and seven out of the last eight (Foothill's won the 1996 event held at Hansen Dam in Lake View Terrace).

Two locations are under consideration for the Y2K+1 race: Dockweiler Beach in Playa del Rey (last year's spot) and the Recruit Training Center in Westchester.

Applications should be available by the beginning of April so now's the time to start forming teams and begin training. For more info, call the LAPD Athletic Director's office at (323) 221-5222, ext. 218/219.

★ ★ ★ ★

We'll Miss You, Jeannie!

Former Athletic Secretary Jeannie Schwab has escaped from the asylum by flying over the cuckoo's nest to take a new position with Detective Headquarters' Division as LERI Unit Secretary. During her time at the Academy, Jeannie, among all her other Athletic Department duties, helped nurture the fledgling LAPRAAC Golf Club. Her warmth and humor will be missed. Agnes Miranda, who had been working on the Baker to Vegas Race, will take over for Jeannie during the search for a new senior clerk/typist.

★ ★ ★ ★

Athletic Director's Office Moves

Okay, so we were just a bit *too* optimistic in last month's issue. After a slight delay, the LAPD Athletic Office has officially moved into the Elysian Park Academy basement space next to the Credit Union (previously occupied by the LAPRAAC Administrative Office).

★ ★ ★ ★

Stargazing at the Academy Café

Took the wife and kid to the Elysian Park Academy Café for lunch in late December and who did we run into? None other than Dodger legend Tommy Lasorda! Hmmm . . . Tommy's a gourmand . . . used to own his own restaurant . . . so he definitely knows good food. The Café is open weekdays from 0700-1400. For seminars, luncheons and special events there's meeting rooms, the Academy Lounge, Rock Garden and (got a crowd big enough?) the Gym. Support those who support *you* patronize the Café and banquet facilities at the Academy. For more details, contact Debbie or Marilyn at (323) 221-5222, ext. 215.

★ ★ ★ ★

We Want Your Articles

Let us help publicize your sport by submitting an article for publication in "Sports Beat." It's easy—fax articles to (818) 957-4275 or e-mail to newsnow@aol.com. Even if you just send notes we can transform them into an article that gets the information out. Articles received by the fifth of the month will be included in the next issue. Photographs are welcome, too. Indicate on your fax or e-mail you have photos and we'll contact you.

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SPORTS BEAT

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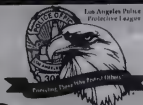
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Hollywood Wins Second Straight LAPD Flag Football Tourney

Coming off an undefeated season for the second straight year, the big question was could anyone keep Hollywood from repeating as LAPD Flag Football champions?

Last year's "Cardiac Kids" (given the moniker after coming from behind to win in all its games) nearly gave its supporters a coronary this time around. In the first round of the double-elimination tournament played December 9-10 at Hoover High School in Glendale, Hollywood was surprised by Newton, 22-18.

Following a forfeit win against Foothill, the Boyz from the 'Wood returned to the Jewel City to face

Southwest, winner of two games by forfeit. It was a rough and tumble battle, but Hollywood was able to hold on to a 28-20 win over the well-rested So'westers. A forfeit win at the expense of Newton put Coach Mike Seguin's team into the championship game against Rampart, which had topped both Newton and Southwest earlier in the tournament.

Try as they could the Temple Streeters just couldn't pull it off. The final gun left everyone singing "Hooray for Hollywood" in honor of the Woodies' 34-6 victory and second straight LAPD championship.

LAPD Flag Football Tournament Results

ROUND 1:	Newton def. 77 th Street 28-12.	Rampart def. Devonshire (forfeit*)
ROUND 2:	Newton def. Hollywood 22-18.	Southwest def. Foothill (forfeit*)
ROUND 3:	Rampart def. Southwest 13-12.	Devonshire and Foothill (forfeited*)
ROUND 4:	Southwest def. 77 th Street (forfeit*)	Hollywood def. Foothill (forfeit*)
ROUND 5:	Rampart def. Newton 20-16.	Hollywood def. Southwest 28-20.
ROUND 6:	Hollywood def. Newton (forfeit*)	
ROUND 7:	Hollywood def. Rampart 34-6.	

*all forfeits no-shows

NEXT LAPRAAC GOLF TOURNEY SLATED FRIDAY, MARCH 9

The second of six LAPRAAC Golf Club tournaments in 2001 has been set for Friday, March 9, at Harding Golf Course in nearby Griffith Park Division teams (four or more players from the same division with established handicaps) and individuals are invited to participate.

Cost for the day of golf, including greens fees, carts and contest services is only \$45. Consecutive tee times start at 1000 hours—the sooner you pay, the earlier your starting time. Fees need to be paid no later than February 21 so definite arrangements can be made and the course fees paid. The Golf Club can not afford to pay for players who make reservations and don't show!

To make reservations or for further questions, contact: LAPD Athletic Director Tony Adler or Athletic Secretary Agnes Miranda at (323) 221-5222, ext. 218/219; or Golf Club Tournament Chair Damien Gutierrez (Devonshire Vice) at (818) 756-8279, ext. 2.

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Registration Underway for Spring Bench Press Contest on March 16

The first bench press contest of the new year will be held Friday, March 16, at the Elysian Park Academy Gym. Seeking to maintain their domination of the past five years will be Paul von Lutzow's 77th Street Power Pigs, who survived a close shave to win their tenth straight contest in November. The Oinkers began their winning string way back in May, 1996.

Deadline to register for this Spring's competition is Tuesday, March 13. Weigh-ins will be held Thursday, March 15, day from 0900 to 1600 hours on the Academy Gym stage. Team rosters must be turned in by the close of weigh-ins. No changes can be made to team rosters after 1600 on March 15 and no later registrations/weigh-ins are allowed on contest day.

If your division or unit does not have a team, contact LAPD Athletic Director Tony Adler at (323) 221-5222, ext. 218/219 to be designated as "team captain."

He will be happy to forward any inquiries from officers in your division/unit. Teams consist of not less than three nor more than 40 officers, and units can field more than one team. Members must be full-time sworn officers assigned to that division as of the day of competition.

Information about required clothing will be posed at the weigh-in. A rules briefing will be held at 0830 on March 16 just prior to the contest start, and flites will be posted at that time. Any competitor missing their flite will be disqualified. Participants (except retirees) entering the contest must be a LAPRAAC member in good standing.

Applications are available at the Elysian Park Academy, RTC in Westchester, the LAPRAAC Administrative Office, department weight rooms, or by calling LAPD Athletic Secretary Agnes Miranda at (323) 221-5222, ext. 218/219.

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On April 7th & 8th, the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club will be sponsoring the annual relay event. The CCRR Motors support the event by supplying skilled motorcycle riders who serve as Race Officials. The function includes enforcement of Race Rules related to race and traffic safety. Motorcycles are required to have 4-way flashers, with Family Radio Service (FRS), CB or HAM 2-way radios a real plus.

Those individuals, both sworn and non-sworn, who would like to assist in covering CCRR Motor assignments for the event are encouraged to contact us for further details on equipment and assignments available.

CCRR Motors - Coordinator

Gary Krystof (LAPD Reserve) (818) 366-9431
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THE TEN RING

by Rick Bennett

The 2000 Police Pistol season is over with another world title in the bank for LAPD. Final rankings for all California police pistol shooters have been posted. Seven LAPD officers made the Governor's Twenty (top 20 shooters in the state), six of them finishing in the top ten spots! They are:

Position	Name	Average
4.	Don Tsunawaki	1490
7.	Bob Barnes	1489
8.	Steve Estrada	1488
9.	Rick Bennett	1487
10.	Lou Salseda	1487
14.	Neil Goldberg	1482
32.	Stefanie Diaz	1467
36.	Lisa Wernli	1464
38.	Steve Embrich	1462
39.	Helen Papietro	1462
67.	Dale Hickerson	1437
70.	Brian Owen	1435

This year's Police Pistol season begins March 31 and concludes with the National Police Shooting Championships September 19-29 in Jackson, Mississippi. LAPD will be looking for its fourth consecutive championship! ♦

LAPD WOMEN'S TEAM 2001 BAKER TO VEGAS

The 2001 LAPD Women's running team will be running Baker to Vegas this year in memory of

Detective Nancy Dyer #21871

Anyone interested in participating either as a runner or a support staff member, please contact

Officer Sherri Egan at
North Hollywood Division, 818-623-4016
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as soon as possible.

The next scheduled team meeting
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2001 Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay to Feature New Finish Line at Rio Hotel

For the second year in a row there's a big change in store for the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay, coming up the weekend of April 7-8. Last year starting times were moved into the evening hours, eliminating searing desert heat as a race factor. This year the finish line, traditionally at a hotel on the Las Vegas Strip, has been moved to the Rio Suites and Convention Center (race headquarters) on the west side of town.

Relocation of the finish line means the race will start two miles farther north on Highway 127, approximately 21 miles outside of Baker. Runners also will no longer end the race using the blinking neon lights of the casinos as a homing beacon. The big plus, however, is that it will make coordination of the event easier and after-race activities much more accessible.

The 17th annual edition of the race will feature 200 or more teams of 20 stalwart individuals who, starting at 1630 hours on Saturday, April 7, run 120 miles through desert and mountain terrain from north of Baker to Shoshone to Pahrump and finally to the Rio Suites.

"Elite" (fastest) teams have been given a 1900 starting time and the last runners will hear the starter's pistol at 2230. It is expected the first place team will hit finish line around 0800 on Sunday, April 8. Stragglers must finish by 1600 or be disqualified. Last year the later start helped California Highway Patrol win with a time of 13:01:46, nearly nine minutes faster than LAPD Metro Red's 1999 finish time. Course record is 12:41:29, set by LAPD Training/Air Support in 1996.

Eligibility rules have been revised for the race. Most important of the revisions restricts departments with 300 or more personnel from having a department-wide team containing runners from units of that department that also have a team. An example: an "LAPD team" could not contain runners from

stations or units that have teams of their own (for example, Metro or Wilshire). Among the other changes is combination teams are now allowed to have a maximum of four contiguous agencies.

Invading the California desert and Nevada mountains this year is a hearty group of mates from Australia, representing Queensland Police Services. These blokes have spent months in training, approximating Baker to Vegas conditions by racing kangaroos and ostriches in the Outback.

Confirmed (but a little closer to home) are teams from the Arizona Attorney General's Office, Calgary (Canada) Police Services, Dallas (Texas) Police, FBI Salt Lake City office, Houston (Texas) Police, Navajo Dept. of Law Enforcement. Teams not confirmed at press deadline include those representing Chicago (IL) Police, Colorado State Patrol, Orem (UT) Dept. of Safety, Plano (TX) Police and Portland (OR) Police.

The Awards Ceremony will be held on Sunday, April 8, 1900 hours, at the Rio Suites and Convention Center. Every team receives a commemorative plaque noting their finish place and the top team in each category receive a trophy and commemorative mugs. The overall champion will be awarded handmade sterling silver buckles plus gain custody of the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Perpetual Trophy for the next year.

Race officials and individual teams are actively looking for volunteers to help with this Herculean effort, which involved nearly 10,000 individuals. For further information on the race, contact Athletic Secretary Agnes Miranda at (323) 221-5222, ext. 218/219, or e-mail race coordinators at bakervegas@aol.com. Additional race details can also be found on the Baker to Vegas Web site: www.bakervegas.com. ♦

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RETIREMENT NEWS

The Retirement News is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Retirees may submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

SABLA—Sacramento Area Blue Line Association

by Bernie Remas

Happy Valentine's Day

It's February again and the 14th is only a few days away. So get yourself together and send your best sweetheart or lover or yes even your wife a Valentine's Day card!! It's good for many, many "points," believe me. She may even send you one—if you're real good!!

I have to reach back for this next part. On Thursday, December 21, 2000, SABLA celebrated the Christmas season with a great luncheon at the Del Webb clubhouse in Roseville. I told you a couple of months ago that if you showed up for this one you would meet some of the finest retired police officers in the world!! And I was not kidding!!

It was also a great opportunity to have a Christmas luncheon with plenty of food and gifts!! The buffet was loaded with exotic salads, fresh vegetables, turkey, dressing and gravy. Also mashed potatoes; more gravy, beef tri-tip, cranberry sauce, rolls and butter and a really high calorie chocolate cake with whipped cream for dessert!! And if that wasn't enough, you could go back for seconds!! And thirds!!

And you should have seen all of us! As my Scottish good friend Hamish McGregor would say—"they were dressed to the nines!" Meaning that everyone was lookin' good for the occasion!!

Coming the longest distance was Ed Slattery and his wife, all the way from Parker, AZ; and Bob Totans from Willits and his look-alike brother, Lou Totans, visiting from Burbank. I saw Al & Vicki Proudfoot in from their mountain retreat!! The Gene DeCronas were there too. And one of the round tables was really "stacked" with a selected group of notables—John Powers and his wife, Bob & Verna Keel, Ray Lauritzen and wife, Ned Ianone, George Puddy, and I forgot who else. One of the other tables had Sun City's Chuck & Joan Blogin, and Carmen &

Charlie Long. Charlie, who has been recovering from surgery, is looking real good! He must be doing what Carmen tells him to do!! I know you two are looking forward to 2001 with the hope that those medical problems are gone away!!

Also at that table was Art Navarez and his wife and their little "guy" who helped with the raffle. "Sliding in at the bell" was Joe Sandoval and his wife. We don't see much of Joe during the year, but he's been a "steady" at these Christmas luncheons. Jim Byrd and his wife were a "little" late, but there was enough food so they were OK!! Grace & Lew Ritter, Sun City residents too, were in a holiday mood. Also saw Bob Sharrett and his wife with the Ken Carlstedts out in the hallway looking around!! And I just realized that Wilma was here from Wisconsin visiting Hoy Key, our illustrious SABLA Treasurer/Secretary. So it looks like the Slatterys did not come the farthest to this luncheon!! I sat next to Dennis "I don't work" McDonald and Julie Duey, his date for the day!! Was that ever fun!! Also at our table was Ted Morton and his wife. At another table I saw Bob Devins, A. J. Miles and his wife, and Bill & Muriel McMonagle. And that leaves the Chuck Crawford and the Jim Meskans. And now it's free raffle time!!

Our SABLA Prez Ed Lewandowski did the honors as Santa Claus and conducted the Christmas FREE raffle. His wife, Cindy, did a lot of work shopping and wrapping and being just like Mrs. Santa Claus!! Everyone received a Christmas gift—or I should say everyone with an LAPD serial number!! It was a good day and great fun!!

I did receive a letter from the renowned Ron Kiser with a follow-up to the horseshoe tournament at the LAPD BBQ at Kiser's last October yet!! Does this competitive spirit ever end?? First of all, Roger Williams, down in Carlsbad, sent me a note stating he and "first-timer" Lou Monico had dethroned the all-time horseshoe champs, Ron Kiser & Alex Shearer!! Well, I thought that that

Retirement Corner

FEBRUARY 2001

Rank	Name	Serial No.	Last Assigned to	No. of Years
P-III	Dennis D. Watkins	12500	Foothill	35
SGT-I	Raymond O. Davies	13765	North Hollywood	32
LT-I	James E. Cole	15561	Rampart	28
SGT-I	Miguel A. Arroyo	16763	DARE	30
SGT-I	Barry C. Ross	17763	Newton	28
D-II	Edward G. Ramirez	22501	RHD	21

6 of L.A.'s finest for a total of 174 years of service.

announcement was worthy of a line or two in this column!! Well, Ron countered with an e-mail message that had "tear drops" all over the paper. One could almost "feel" the moisture on the paper!! So now we have a dilemma! Ron says that the team of Williams & Monico "lost" in the championship round to Jeff & Ann Kiser!! If you noticed the last name (Kiser) is the same—it is!! It's Ron Kiser's son!! Now I'll be glad to report the news, but I need some honesty—or at least some clarification of who did actually win!! Because... some of us need to know! Not everybody, but some!!

We did finally hear from Max & Hueih-Hueih Hurlbut!! An absentee lifetime SABLA member, Max is still living in Bellingham, WA. And from their Christmas card photo, it looks like Max could do "another 20" or start looking for another challenging job!! Those of you that are SABLA members will be able to read up on Max in an upcoming issue of the SABLA newsletter done by Hoy Key!!

And yet another long distance SABLA member, Dave Wheeler was heard from recently. He's another one recovering from surgery in 2000. But please do me a favor. Dave has written a book. But this one is excellent. An outstanding text. Please encourage him to find a publisher and get it on the street!! Those of you that know "the way," call Dave out in Apple Valley and help him along with this project!!

More speakers are planned for the future by our Prez Ed Lewandowski, so

make sure y'all come by the "Friends" and see us.

Sit with someone you don't know well and start a new friendship!! Come break bread with us!! It would help if you could call Ed Lewandowski and let him know you're coming. Three ways to do that—phone at either (530) 626-4248 or (916) 445-4710 or e-mail at fast-ed@plyl.innersite.com. Ed needs to let them know how many of us are coming so they can set up tables, chairs, etc. Don't forget. We're back to meeting every month. The second Thursday of every month—except December!!

This month it will be Thursday, February 8, 2001. "Friends" Restaurant, Highway 50 & Zinfandel, 1130 hours. Order anything off the menu. It's great!

For sending us Valentines and greetings from all of you, our mailbox is still P.O. Box 60353, Sacramento, CA 95860-0353. A Happy Valentine's Day to all of you out there!! Don't forget your "sweetie!!"

And Roy Kerton from Elk Grove. Roy will be writing for SABLA for the next three months. Judy and I bought a condo in Ft. Myers, Florida, and the day after Christmas we're gonna escape the cold, shivering winters of Sacramento in favor of the sunny warmth of South Florida. So, Roy, you're on your own!! Be back in April in time to "pay the taxes!"

Be good to each other out there. We need and love each and every one of you.

Valley Retired Blues

by Clinton O. Erickson

Our next luncheon meeting will be on February 21, 2001, at "The LAMP-LIGHTER" Restaurant located on the corner of DeSoto Ave. and Nordhoff St. There is no set start time, so you may arrive anytime after 10:30 a.m. For those that have never attended, our menu consists of lunch a couple of lunch entrees, salads and breakfast in the price range of six to eight dollars.

We had 27 at the December 20th luncheon. The following were present: Bob Baker (7839), John Becker (5059), Ken Brondell (3336), Ted Debs (6808), Doris Dotson, Emmett Brennen (3279), Hilliard (Curly) Elliott (4534), Ray Elmer (5607), Clinton Erickson (5608), Bill Pedderson (4823), Bob Fritz (4583), Mel Harner (4501), Morrie Henkin

(5247), Glen Kailey (3503), John Kepke (4603), Tom Lindholm (4734), George Moore (10565), Paul Nicholas (4047), Les Nolte (10821), Ray Palaszewski (6934), Ben Reineke (3190), Dale Rickards (3593), Guy Schlotzhauer (2804), Ted Spruill (7737), Rose Weaver (6418), and Jim Wilson (10349). This was the first time Doris Dotson and Jim Wilson attended.

I plan to have a recap in the March issue of a presentation from Dennis Zine of the Protective League and candidate for the City Council from our 3rd council district.

Our meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Call me at (818) 340-2430 or e-mail at clintsr@pacbell.net with any information relating to our retired officers.

More Retirement News on next page



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RETIREMENT NEWS

The Central Coast Fuzz That Wuzz

by Dave Aikins

Greetings from all of us on the Central Coast. Year 2001 is here and hopefully it doesn't breeze by as fast as Y2K did. I guess when you are busy with family, friends and associates plus a myriad of activities it's hard to slow it down. Had super weather on the Central Coast last



Joe & Taylor Hilden, Cambria, CA.

year and lots of things to do. Hope you are all hanging in there with impressive New Year's resolutions.

The Fuzz Family had a super Christmas party at the beautifully decorated Madonna Inn last December. As we only meet quarterly, it was our highlight event. My compliments to Brian & Cathy Galbraith, Tom & Dorie Swinger for all the hard work they did. We had about 117 souls in attendance (a little aviation lingo there), and it was a lot of fun. The Christmas gifts won by the folks were awesome, with our super gift—a TV, video combination—claimed by Jack & Margie Collins of Solvang. Charlie & Priscilla LaFitte donated a beautiful gift for the raffle, which was very thoughtful. Paul Mattson and Sam Lopez were heavily engaged in a contest to see who picked up the most gifts. Paul won big time! The San Luis Obispo High School Choir provided great Christmas entertainment and the cuisine was delightful.

Special attendees included Chris & Elizabeth Allebe of Los Osos, Dorothy Landgraf and friend Mitzie Wendler. Marty, Corrine, & Kyra Jefferson were guests of Fuzz guys Sam & Paulette Lopez. Not yet retired West Valley officer Don Matthews came by to enjoy the festivities (Don has over 31 years now and should be pulling the pin soon). Jim & Winnie Davis were guests of Al Schlocker, as were Tom & Beverly Brannon. Toni & Doris Desiato, Dorie Swinger's parents, were seen having a great time.

Well, folks, it's time again to list our members for the new year. Here goes! Bill & Linda Achen, Geraldine Auth, Robert & Dorothea Ballou, David &

Claudia Bannister, Frank & Flo Beeson, Walter Boronich, John Bradbury & Josana Jackson, Charles & Audrey Brown, Charlie & Coleen Brown, Ken & Joanne Buscarino, Freeman & Nellie Calvert, Jack Carter, Jack & Margie Collins, Joe, & Myrl Cornwell, George & Susan Courtney, Bob & Marilyn Darnell, Chief Ed & Bobbie Davis, Cliff & Lorraine De Bernardi, Roy Eker, Terry & Sherrie Ellis, Harold Epling, Dave Frazier, Brian & Cathy Galbraith, Patty Olear/Gansemmer and John & Mary Anne George.

If that's not enough, there's Richard Gingras, Paul & Barbara Hardy, Joe & Taylor Hilden (photo), Guy & Jane Hogue, Art & Cathy Hotchkiss, Sheryl & Roy Hovas, Gerd & Nancy



Lucy Salls, Paso Robles, CA.

Konieczny, John & Fran Krasts, Charles & Priscilla LaFitte, Brad & Faye Lamdin, Tom & Stella Lindholm, Sam & Paulette Lopez, Paul & Stella Mattson, Jerry & Paula May, Max & Bill Alpine, Mike & Marcia McKeane, Bob & Joanne McSeveney, Robert & Mary Niles, Bryan & Sharon Pearson, and John Pearson.

Hey, we got more: Robert & Aileen Rackerby, Jean Ramey, Fred & Ellen Reichman, Gil Rivera, Lucy Salls (photo), Allen Schlocker, Marty & Rosemary Schlocker, Bill & Susanna Selesky, Warren & Murial Sizoo, Tom & Christina Stead, Ken & Wanda Stiffler, Wallace Tallant, Robert & Margaret Tipton, Bruno & Ellen Tonin, Fred & Sharline Tuggey, Bob & Carole Velek, Robert Wall, Jeff & Melissa Watkins, Marion Yates, Tom & Dorie Zwinger, and yours truly, with Judy Aikins.

A special thanks to Paulette Lopez for putting together our annual directory. Your efforts, Paulette, are greatly appreciated by all of us. Super job.

Whew, what a crew. Great people from LAPD. If you would like to contact anyone, our cyberspace stop is wuzzlapd@aol.com. Keep dreaming! Take care, KMA

Inland Blue Line

by Loyd H. Yandle

Well, we made it through another year. We worried about the new millennium, and it never happened. Just like a lot of things. You worry and worry and it never happens. Well, some things that is. I worried for over a year, and it did happen, but I am slowly getting through it. Have terrible flashbacks at times, but I guess I'll make it. Thanks to the tremendous support I have received from all of you out there. I am not going to dwell on the subject anymore, but I did just want to say thanks to all who stuck by me through this ordeal and gave me moral and spiritual support. God bless you all.

January 10th the luncheon turned out just great. Had a good crowd, over 100 showed up. Excellent presentation by the LAPD's own Air Force. It was very informative and well received by all those attending. Thanks to Dick Briggs for getting his son-in-law to come and put on the presentation.

Wilma Hyden just made it back from Switzerland the day before the luncheon. She had been visiting her daughter and grandchildren who live in Zurich, Switzerland. Jet lag caught up with Wilma. Had to keep poking her in the ribs to keep her awake. Not really, just had to put a little with Wilma. Don't know what

Had a nice letter from my friend, George Aliano, who is going after a seat on the Fire and Police Pension Commission. George would be a good candidate, so let's all get behind George and put him in as retired Police Pension Commissioner.

Floyd Philips is recovering from heart surgery. Can't keep a good man down. Of course Lydin (his lovely wife) helps and cares for him hand and foot.

Low Melott had to miss for the first time in all these years. He is having surgery. Get well, Lou. We miss you.

The Horraills had to miss the luncheon. They were on a trip with their motor home. Promised to be at April luncheon.

Jeanne MacGregor had to miss 1-10-2001 as she had house guests, but promised to be at the April luncheon also.

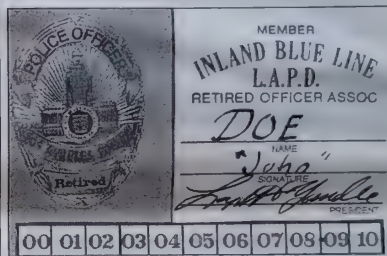
Fred & Carol Warner left Jan. 7th on a cruise. They rarely miss the luncheon.

Pete Petteys missed for the first time in over ten years.

Fred Scheffler was just diagnosed with lung cancer and radiation treatments are taking a toll on him. He'll be okay. Fred is a fighter, and I know he'll be back real soon. Hang in there, Fred. Everyone is praying for you.

Had a surprise call from an old partner of mine from 1957, David

McGill. Talked at long length about old times. We had Santa Monica Beach Detail with Raul Frany. Those were the days. David lives in Catalina, but his Visa ran out and he can't come to the mainland, and no one will vouch for him enough to get a new Visa. Sorry, Dave. I told you your past would catch up with you someday. Those were the fun days.



I would do without all her help, and that goes for Dora & Lloyd Tucker who stepped right in and took Beverly's place in line at the check-in table. Thanks for being there when I needed help.

The response to my plea for paying the dues paid off somewhat. Got about 40 people who couldn't come to the luncheon but sent in their dues. Thank you. We need all the help to keep this club going. There are still some retirees that just never send in their dues for two years. Then they pay the third year and skip the next two. Thanks to the goodness of some of the members who send in an extra \$5, \$10 and even \$20 to help with stamps, cost of running this club. I appreciate all this help. But a few members should not be carrying the members who don't pay but want to belong. Five dollars per year per family isn't going to break anyone, and I have not raised it as long as I can keep my head above water, but I cannot pay out of my own pocket, and so far I have managed to make ends meet. Thanks to the help of some members like Hank Weldon, Lyle Strand, Bill Roberts, Ben Reineke, Bob Drees, Dean Warner and Billi Feliz, to name a few. There are others, but my mind is a blank, and this letter has a deadline, and my mind just don't work like it used to.

I talked at long length the other day with Tom Reddin, a really super guy. He agrees that the '40s and '50s were the best years of the police department. We could do good police work without any interference from any radical liberal group. We did not have a lot of crybabies to deal with. The law was the law and you had better abide by it or else. We had respect but still showed authority. Politics should never enter into police work. The Warren Commission was the start of the ruination of the police department. And look around you, it has gone downhill more every year. I feel sorry for the young officers just starting out. The only advice us old-timers can give is hang in there, it has to get better. It can't get much worse. Unless they buy a Pacifier for all the crybabies that are against the police department today.

The next meeting of the Inland Blue Line will be Wednesday, April 11, 2001, same place, same time.

How do you all like the new I.D. cards we had made for Inland Blue Line? Pretty fancy. My daughter, B.J., redesigned the card. Thanks, B.J.

Remember my phone number is 909-925-4491, and remember be careful, buckle up. It's a jungle out there.

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Old Blue Running Team

by Neil Parker

"Mom Always Knows"

"Mom, hey, Mom!" rang throughout the house as the heavy door to our apartment resoundingly slammed shut. "Mom? Mommm—Maaa? It's snowing! It's snowing! Where's the galoshes? Where are they? Where did we put them last year? Where's my gloves and the sleigh; are they down the cellar? Isn't this great? It's just like you said, Mom. You said that the snow would come back again and it did! Mom, look, look at the pretty little snowflakes. They're so good that they almost taste like ice cream!"

That last sentence was a wake-up call for most New York City mothers, including mine, as just a few days away the worst snowstorm to ever hit town was waiting to dump 25 paralyzing inches of white stuff as a salute to 1945.

Knowing what she would see all of the neighborhood kids doing in the first snow fall of the year, mom laughingly pulled back the living room curtains. True to tradition, they were all trying to taste the nickel- and quarter-sized falling snowflakes by catching them in their open mouth. Like a school of fish, the kids would run back and forth across the snow-filled street when one or the other of them would announce that the flakes were better or colder or bigger in their spot than anywhere else on the block. And of course this left room for lots of shenanigans and cries of "my spot's colder than your spot," much to the chagrin of some eight-year-olds who had just been duped by an older kid into believing just that.

But a half hour had now passed since the gray clouds had started dumping the absolutely flavorless juvenile delicacy on the kids of New York City. And having sated the appetites as well as freezing the faces and tongues of most of the neighborhood pre-adolescents, it was now time for a few of our more aggressive juveniles to display some of the slick tricks that they had learned in Snowman 1A from the big boys who hung out on the corner.

And, of course, the trickster of them all was little Timmy Milligan, aka "Red." Timmy thought it was really cool to lick snowflakes from car windows for money without getting his tongue stuck to the glass. At a penny a lick he wouldn't stop till his tongue turned red. Mom then gasped as she saw the neighborhood brat

pause for breath, count his change and then slyly try to drop a tiny snowball into Kathleen Houlihan's wide open and unsuspecting mouthful of flakes. But slick as Timmy was, his surprise missed the target and slid down the neck of her blouse igniting an immediate whoop and a holler from Kate as well as her twin sister, Eileen. Little Timmy really did have a few attributes but being fleet of foot in the snow and slush after just missing a two-pointer on one of the Houlihan twins was not one of them, and was as dumb as throwing a snowball at one of New York City's "finest." And the reaction was as fast as you might have anticipated. Unfortunately, Timmy didn't.

One of the twins' younger brothers, Brendan, chummed around with Timmy, but Brendan in reality was almost as much of a neighborhood menace as Master Tim. Brendan was just sneaking out of his house to play in the snow when he heard Eileen's shrill cry and like a wolf cub leaving the den for code seven, he code 3ed into snowland where he just missed getting creamed by old man Rafferty's worn out La Salle which was out of control and sliding sort of sideways since Rafferty did not have snow chains. Nimble dodging around the big bucket of bolts, Brendan was just in time to see his sobbing sister, Kate, doing the snowflake jitterbug trying to rid herself of Timmy's "Christmas present" while Eileen was in hot pursuit of slow speed Timmy who had to stop for the La Salle that was now southbound in the northbound lane. When Brendan saw Eileen, the class scholar, yelling as she tried to put a choke hold on Terrible Timmy, he knew that his buddy Tim, somehow, some way had insulted a Houlihan female. Tim did not make good his escape.

When Eileen, Kathleen, Brendan, a few more of the Houlihan tribe and a couple of juvenile enemies that Timmy had nurtured in the neighborhood got through stuffing his pockets, his leggings, his galoshes and even his wool cap with snow, he was one chilly Milligan.

Tim, of course, never lived it down even though he changed his name to Red and quit licking car windows. But this was just more or less another typical winter day in the Big Apple of yesterday and is mentioned solely to show Californians what kind of great winter sports fun they missed. With near zero temps on most days, no one, nobody, was out running in the frigid weather. It

Dates to Remember

February

February 6-8	California Robbery Investigators Assn. Gold Coast Hotel, Las Vegas	
February 8	S.A.B.L.A. Luncheon	1130
February 20	American Legion Post 817 Meeting	1800 1900
February 21	Valley Retired Blues	1030 1200

March

March 1	LAPPL 2001 Scholarship Applications due to Protective League office	
March 7-9	California Homicide Investigators Assn. Silver Legacy Casino Hotel, Reno	
March 8	LAPPL 4th Annual College Fair Police Academy Gymnasium	1000
March 14	Italian American Police Officers Assn. Meeting at Palermo's Restaurant	1700
March 16	Desert Refuge Benefit Golf Tournament Hansen Dam G.C.	
March 29	Newton Boosters 'Golf for Kids' Tournament, Brookside G.C.	1100

was basketball, ice hockey and for the unlucky it was pneumonia. The snow usually visited several more times until the weather began to warm up and the stickball players and bicyclists began to reappear. Skiing? Who could afford it and locally the only downhill slope of note was the side of the Empire State Building. Daylight Savings Time gave rise to baseball, boxing, track and some golf which drew everyone's attention to the parks, playgrounds and beaches in this pre-TV period of our history.

Ah me, I almost forgot the great sport of kings, horse racing. Quite a few folks bet on either the ponies or the numbers and there definitely was no shortage of other sportsmen around to take your action on whatever it was that struck your fancy. The beaches were jammed till Labor Day and by Turkey Day the only swimmers were a zillion seagulls getting set to fly to Florida. Soon enough it was time again for Santa, runny noses and a mother's best friend—chicken soup. And just like mom said, there was more snow, kids chasing snowflakes and somewhere there was another lovable

little trickster named Timmy, 'cause mom always knows.

Happy New Year to all from 22 of our Old Blue members who started the year with a great meet on Jan. 7 at Griffith Park. Congrats from Capt. **Chuck McTaggart**, **Mel Sandvig**, **Bob Carter**, **Pat Dailey**, **Gene Peterson**, **Russ Young**, **Jay Hernando**, **Bruce Hoover**, **Keith Allen**, **Jim Becker**, **Phil Booth**, **Mike Cherry**, **Bob Espinosa**, **Bill Osuna**, **Joe Najera**, **Rudy DeLeon**, **Corky Rochlitz**, **Virginia Van Houtte**, **Mike Melancon**, **Mike McKean**, **George Beck** and yours truly. And a quick reminder to all team members from George that we should make out our \$5 dollar entry/uniform fee to the LAPD RETIRED RELAY TEAM and not to him. However, mail it to him at 2331 Warmouth St., San Pedro, CA 90732-4534. Only a bit over two months until the Baker-Vegas race. Can the CHP statewide team repeat their victory of last year or will Metro-Red come back to the victory circle?

We'll soon find out!

Coachella Valley Blue Line and Golf Club

by Ron and Elaine Gray

Well, the "season" is upon us, and with the return of the snowbirds and vacationers, the population here in the desert has really increased. This was evidenced by almost 60 guests who attended our November mixer at the home of **Tim** and **Susan Dotson** in Bermuda Dunes on November 10th. Thank goodness they have such a beautiful and spacious home, and we all fit nicely.

You can imagine the conversations in a group like that where everyone has a story to tell about their summer travels and adventures. It was great!

While we gorged ourselves on a fabulous Mexican buffet, we saw old friends and met some newcomers. First-timers were **Narisse** and **Bill Johnson** (BAD); **Lynn** and

Carl Berlin (Rampart); and **Linda and Pat Murphy**. Pat retired from Seattle P.D. and is currently President of the Coachella Valley Chapter of *Footprinters*. Some members whom we haven't seen for a while were **Bob and Melody Bowers**, **Dave and Debra Warren**, **Ed and Mary Henderson**, **Gary Grubel**, **Ted and Barbara Spruill**, and **Larry and Sharon DeLosh**. Don't stay away so long.

Al Fried asked for volunteers to host next year's mixers and quickly filled the calendar through June. How's that for participation!

Sandi Palmer is putting together the 2001 roster. We would like to see your name on it. Contact her at 818-349-9714 or by e-mail at CVBLGC@aol.com. We have a great group of people but there's always room for more. Hope to see you real soon. ❖

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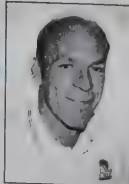
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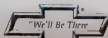
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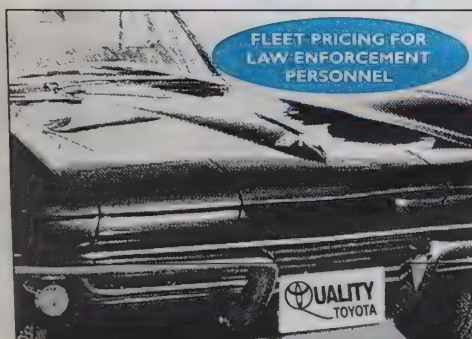
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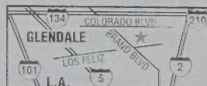
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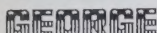
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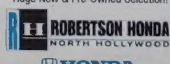
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